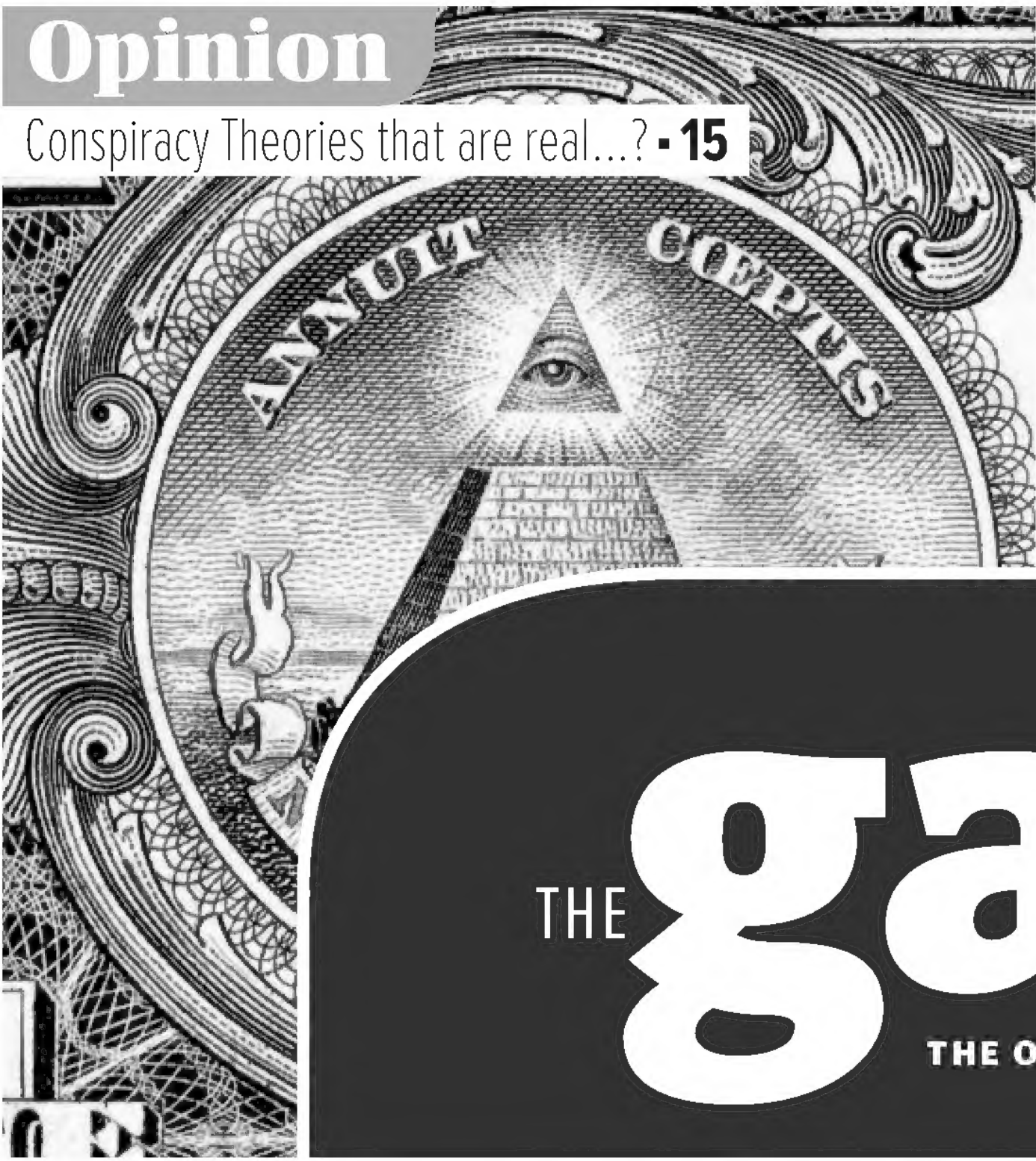


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September 28th, 2011 ■ Issue No. 5 ■ Volume 102

THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

BROKEN RECORD

SU wants to retake world record

A return to the Butterdome scheduled after UC Irvine attracts 4,000 students to record-breaking game

April Hudson
NEWS STAFF

The University of Alberta is preparing once more to reclaim the Guinness World Record for the largest dodgeball game, which it has broken annually for the past two years.

The record, which the U of A broke in February 2010 with 1,198 participants and again in February 2011 with 2,012, has sparked international competition and has since been broken by institutions such as Rochester Institute of Technology and the University of California, Irvine, which recently broke the U of A's 2011 record by attracting 4,488 participants to a game.

"At this point, the numbers are just going up," said Colten Yamagishi, Students' Union Vice-President (Student Life), who is in charge of challenging the record with the next massive dodgeball game at the U of A.

Yamagishi feels certain that the U of A can keep up its winning streak and take back its title as record-holder, despite UC Irvine's new record being more than twice the number of participants that attended the U of A's last dodgeball game in February.

"We've never been 100 per cent sure before if we were going to get the numbers we needed or not, but that's never stopped us. We're really excited."

PLEASE SEE **DODGEBALL** • PAGE 5



FILE PHOTO: AARON YEO

DODGEBALL OPINION

Lost record deserves righteous retaliation from U of A



Ryan
Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR

Okay, UC Irvine, I think I speak for all of us here at the University of Alberta when I say, "it's on, dickbags." This new, more than 4,000-person dodgeball record of yours is not the end. Not by a long shot.

In February, 2010, we smashed the world record for largest dodgeball game, then held by some crummy school in San Diego. Driven by the legendary towers of Lister and the determined leadership of then-Vice-President (Student Life), Nick Dehod, 1,200 students got together to show that at this university, dodgeball is taken ridiculously seriously.

And yet, you stole our dreams, UC Irvine. You took the sport most precious to our students, and you got 1,745 of your freshmen to shit all over it.

You think you're so cool with your delightful California weather, accessible proximity to Disneyland and that admittedly cool nearby outside mall thing?

Well, I've enjoyed all three of those things, but when I heard what you did to us, my fond memories curdled and swiftly erased themselves. And though we were all shaken at first, the shock quickly turned to righteous fervour for our record — the kind not seen since the Cold War.

PLEASE SEE **RETALIATION** • PAGE 12

Integrity Survey reveals shortfalls in academic discipline

University and Students' Union sources disagree over the use of online fraud detection sites such as Turnitin.com to avoid plagiarism

Alex Migdal
STAFF REPORTER • @ALEXEM

The recently published results of the University of Alberta's Academic Integrity Survey reveal that 39 per cent of instructors surveyed said they had let a case of cheating go unreported, as did 26 per cent of teaching assistants.

The survey, administered to U of A undergraduate and graduate students, teaching assistants, and instructors in October and

November of 2010, also noted that 42 per cent of undergraduate students reported observing another student cheat at least once, while 38 percent of instructors described the effectiveness of the U of A's academic disciplinary policy as "low" or "very low".

The report also made a controversial recommendation to review electronic detection resources such as Turnitin.com for potential use at the U of A, which the Students' Union has criticized as assuming guilt of students.

Chris Hackett, Academic Integrity

Coordinator in the Office of Judicial Affairs, referred to the statistics from the survey as "concerning" and explained that the reason behind them is partly a communication issue.

Hackett explained that the U of A emphasizes its vast resources available for students and instructors to prevent academic misconduct, but that the university doesn't "necessarily do a good job of getting out in front of people and saying here's the information you're looking for."

"We frequently send confusing and

contradictory messages to people," he noted. "Or we settle on the lowest common denominator: don't cheat, don't be bad, which really doesn't mean anything."

On top of more than 3,500 survey responses received, focus groups were held for students, TAs, and instructors, which Hackett said were valuable in revealing the need for transparency when it comes to addressing academic integrity violations.

PLEASE SEE **INTEGRITY** • PAGE 3

THE **gateway**
visit us at THEGATEWAYONLINE.CA

Wednesday, September 28, 2011
Volume 102 Issue No. 5

Published since November 21, 1910
Circulation 8,000
ISSN 0845-356X

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The Gateway is published by the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS), a student-run, autonomous, apolitical not-for-profit organization, operated in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.

The Gateway is proud to be a founding member of the Canadian University Press.

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The Gateway periodically adjusts its circulation between 7,000 to 10,000 printed copies based on market fluctuations and other determining factors.

colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers and HP Scanjet flatbed scanners. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **Fairplex**, **Utopia**, **Proxima Nova Extra Condensed**, and **Tisa**. *The Manitoban* is *The Gateway's* sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." *The Gateway's* games of choice are *Age of Empires II* and *Counter-Strike*.

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national news briefs

COMPILED BY **Tannara Yelland**

University tuition and compulsory fees on the rise across Canada

SASKATOON (CUP) — As universities try to balance their budgets in the face of a sluggish economy, Canadian students have seen their tuition rise by eight per cent in the last two years.

A four per cent increase for the 2010–11 year was followed by another 4.3 per cent hike this year, according to a recent Statistics Canada study.

The Canadian average for undergraduate tuition is now \$5,366. Ontario students, who pay \$6,640 on average, pay the highest tuition in the country, while Quebec undergrads enjoy the lowest tuition in the nation, paying an average of \$2,519. Students in Newfoundland and Labrador, where tuition fees have been frozen since 2003–04, are paying an average of \$2,649.

In Alberta, tuition is capped to the Consumer Price Index

(CPI), meaning it increased by about two per cent for the 2011–12 year. Average fees for full-time undergrads in the province sit at \$5,662. However, Students' Union Vice-President (External) Farid Iskandar noted that the fees figure is misleading, as Alberta has high mandatory non-instructional fees.

While Alberta has the highest non-tuition fees, students in New Brunswick will have the largest increase over last year's non-instructional fees for both graduates and undergraduates. Compulsory non-tuition fees went up for undergraduates by 21.5 per cent over last year, rising to \$430. For graduate students, non-instructional fees went up by 17.6 per cent.

The national average for compulsory fees went up 5.5 per cent for undergrads. Graduate students in Nova Scotia were the only students in the nation to see a decline in compulsory fees; they went down by 7.5 per cent.

While Canadian undergrads are paying more each year, international students are worse off. International students, who represent a rapidly growing portion of the student population, pay an average of \$17,571 in tuition — up 9.5 per cent from two years ago.



AMIRALI SHARIFI



SCIENCE FAIR Visitors and students have fun at the Engineering Expo. ZAIN NAQVI

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Alex Migdal + Alana Willerton**

As you may have heard, SU Vice-President (Student Life) Colten Yamagishi ran on a promise to host a campus musical this year.

WE ASKED...

What kind of musical would you like to see?



Kaisha Terefe SCIENCE I

"Rent. And don't take out the profanity, leave it like it is."



David Pitcher GRAD STUDIES II

"The only thing that's stuck in my head is a musical version of Shakespeare. Make really outrageous versions of the comedies."



Megan Cairney EDUCATION III

"I love the movie *Moulin Rouge*. I think that would be a great musical. It would be really fun and has a lot to do with our age group. It would be over-the-top."



Amy McLean PHYS ED. II

"They should do hip-hop, like *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*."



gateway photo

If you're going to be sexy in a photo, you'd better be thinking about sex rather than about being sexy.

- PETA WILSON

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Students' Union criticizes suggestion of Turnitin.com

INTEGRITY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Justice has to be seen to be done, and I don't think we're good at that," Hackett said. "That's partly because of confidentiality. We have to protect the rights of the people who are going through the process."

One consensus among instructors was feeling "unprepared and unsupported" in disciplining students. The current process entails an instructor reporting the incident of cheating directly to the dean of the faculty, who then ultimately determines the sanction. Hackett would like to see instructors more involved in this process in hopes of re-engaging them.

"The big one is giving the instructors some level of decision-making," Hackett said, but added that students need to be protected from instructors' personal agendas. "We have to have some level of consistency and instructors need to know there are limits to this."

Hackett is aiming to move the disciplinary system to a centralized system as well, rather than each faculty dealing with academic discipline separately, in order to keep track of serial cheaters and assuring that students are dealt with fairly and consistently.

The plagiarism scandal which hit former Dean of Medicine Philip Baker last June also highlighted students' misconceptions of the severity of sanctions, according to Hackett.

He explained that expulsions are usually handed out for non-academic offenses where an offender could endanger other students, such as sexual assault.

"When we get into an expulsion for an academic offence, somebody

has done something typically repeatedly, deliberately, and willfully refused to follow the rules," he added. "At that point, we're basically declaring that we're no longer trying to teach this person."

Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Emerson Csorba stressed that students and instructors need better communication from the U of A's disciplinary bodies in order to ensure that academic integrity is as clear as possible.

"There does seem to be a lack of understanding in terms of some of the nuances of academic integrity.

"(Turnitin) presumes that students are guilty when in fact they'll have done their research to create a sound paper."

EMERSON CSORBA
VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

"There's the big academic integrity related topics like plagiarism that students know a lot about, but it's more of nuances like collaboration or editing with other students that need to be better communicated by the university."

Csorba voiced opposition to the report's recommendation that professors use Turnitin.com, claiming the move "presumes that students are guilty when in fact they'll have done their research to create a sound paper."

The online academic plagiarism detector allows instructors to upload student papers to Turnitin.com, where papers are

compared to a database of millions of publications and web pages. However, Turnitin recently launched an offshoot service called WriteCheck that allows students to check for plagiarism themselves, and potentially circumvent the detector software.

The discussion on text matching software is a "critically important issue" according to Hackett, and he expects it to be at the forefront of academic integrity over the next few years.

He admitted that there a number of issues with the software, but thinks the university should still explore the possibility of using it.

"We think it's unlikely that anybody will ever say, 'You can't use any of those tools,' but we should figure out how we expect people to use them responsibly and how we're going to handle the pedagogical issues and respect students' (intellectual) property," Hackett said.

Csorba and Hackett both agree that their priority this year is to establish an Academic Integrity Council, comprised of various U of A groups coming together to discuss issues of academic integrity. Csorba said the council is a good idea as long as it remains an advisory body rather than a policy-making body.

"(The council) encourages continued discussion about academic integrity," Csorba said.

"Without a council, it's possible that the report is written and just left there. If the Academic Integrity Council has fair representation from across the university and it meets on a consistent basis to discuss these issues, this should ensure that academic integrity moves forward."

CCIS heralds "new level" of science

Matt Hirji
NEWS STAFF

The Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (CCIS) represents a new era for scientific education, partnerships, and advancement, University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera said at the grand opening of North Campus's newest building, Sept. 23.

"We had a dream on our campus. A dream that we could revolutionize the way we deliver science education and the way we conducted science research. Our aim? To take scientific teaching and research to a new level in Alberta, to build a scientific infrastructure that rivals the best in the world. Today, that vision is a reality," Samarasekera declared, speaking to an audience of more than 200 people including Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach.

Towering 118 feet above the northern boarder of Quad, CCIS represents the new epicentre for the Faculty of Science at the university. With a footprint of 9,932 square meters, the L shaped structure contains 1,039 tons of steel, 17,700 lamps and five-football fields worth of glass. The U of A is seeking the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver designation for the building.

The sheer amount of glass in the building acted as a symbol for transparency in Samarasekera's ribbon-cutting address.

"Transparency defines both the philosophical underpinnings and the architectural design of this building. When you are in this building what strikes you is how



NADINE SIDANE

much you can see ... This building is about breaking down barriers, connecting with each other and finding new ways of seeking answers to the questions and problems that we share across disciplinary and international borders," Samarasekera said.

"In this exceptional and inspiring facility, undergraduate and graduate students literally have a front-row seat to cutting edge research and direct access to the tools needed to be at the forefront of research."

Following Samarasekera's speech, Dr. Arthur Bruce McDonald was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science for his work in particle astrophysics.

McDonald, one of Canada's foremost physicists, is the Director of the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory Institute and leads international research collaboration towards seeking answers to questions in particle astrophysics.

In accepting his degree, McDonald

spoke about the importance of CCIS in the future advancement of interdisciplinary sciences — something that he deems important for not only his own research, but for the development of scientific knowledge as a whole.

"Truly, frontier research has to be interdisciplinary in its nature if it's to succeed," McDonald explained.

"This building will enable the University of Alberta to continue its leadership in science for the future ... It's helpful not only because it will bring together scientists from a number of different disciplines who will undoubtedly be more creative and innovative as they pursue their own research topics, but interact with, and arrive at a broader perspective from their colleagues in this building."

In addition to housing lecture halls and research groups, CCIS will house the Faculty of Science office and the Department of Physics office.

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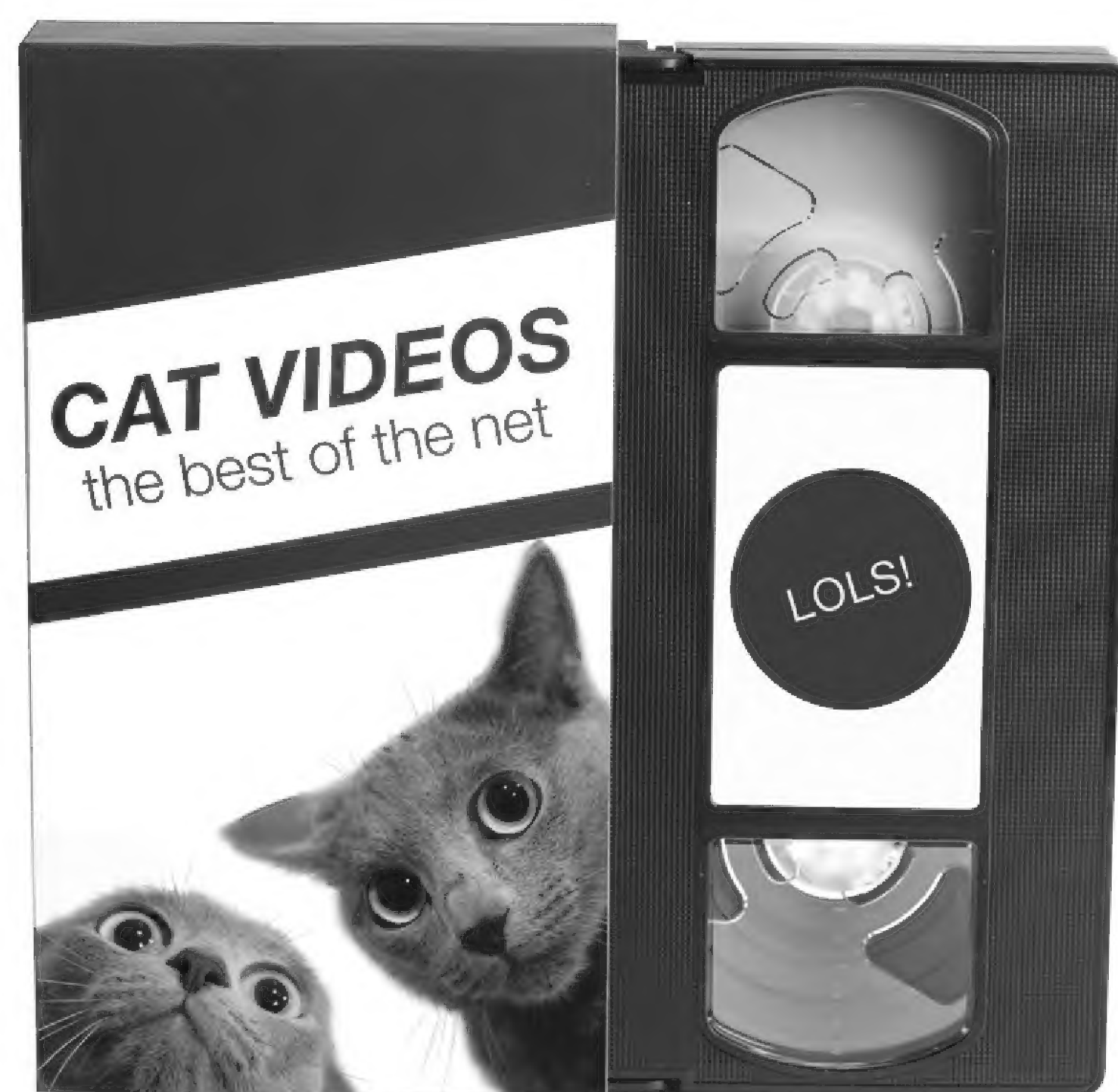
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Claire Martin calls for scientists to speak out

April Hudson
NEWS STAFF

Claire Martin, senior meteorologist for CBC Vancouver and University of Alberta graduate, spoke at Alumni Weekend last Friday to advocate for scientists to speak out, and explained how she traveled a path that allows her to do just that.

Martin received a Distinguished Alumni Award the day before her speech, which was entitled "How does a scientist end up with a full-time TV job." She is a world-recognized weather forecaster, and she explained that she is passionate about sharing her knowledge with others, be it fellow meteorologists or children.

"I'm a huge proponent for passing on the science," she said. "Education isn't like a cinnamon bun ... You don't just ingest it, take it in, and keep it for yourself — you actually pass it on," she said.

Having moved to Canada from the UK, where she completed a degree in mathematics and worked as a forecaster for the UK Met Office, Martin started working for Environment Canada, who wouldn't accept her British degree.

"They demoted me," she said. "They wouldn't take me as a forecaster. (They) took me on as an observer, and it was one of the most wonderful things that ever happened to me."

From humble beginnings as a weather observer in Fort Reliance, Martin enrolled at the U of A and graduated with a BSc degree specializing in meteorology, landing a job with what is now Global Television Edmonton.

Martin, who learned the art of TV mostly on-air and described the experience as both “wonderful” and “horrendously awful,” now works as a forecaster for CBC News and also does some work for the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), a specialized agency of the UN.

No stranger to the public eye, Martin recently returned from Europe where she spent her time teaching climatologists how to communicate.

Her speech at the U of A focused on the problems current meteorologists face.

"Climatologists have got themselves into a pickle, trying to deliver what I would say is one of the most important messages there is to mankind right now — that of a dramatically changing environment which we have to do something about," Martin said.

"The story is accurate; the math is accurate; the science is unequivocal. But climatologists are either tongue-tied, or they open their mouth and insert their foot."

Martin's work with the WMO is done on her own time, for free, due to what she considers to be an ethical obligation towards the field of science.

"It means that I'm at the 'scum that scum wipes from the bottom of its shoe' level of the UN," Martin joked.

"But if I ever reach a point where I have any influence politically, I never want to be involved with someone who says, 'They paid her to be here.'"

Martin said that if she does reach a position of authority, her number one goal is to force a change so that other scientists are not frightened of the media. She added that there seems to be a problem in Canada with researchers connecting properly to the press.

"I'm going to go political here, but our scientists in Canada have a horrendous time talking to the media," Martin said, speaking from experiences she has had since graduating from the U of A.

"Of all the people who should not be gagged, ever, it is our scientists. You cannot tailor or edit a scientist. They must be allowed to do what they do, because science is the way we go forward."



BREAK THE RECORD, AGAIN. U of A students pick up dodgeballs as they break the record for the second time in 2010 FILE PHOTO: MATT HIRJI

Yamagishi vows to strike back and reclaim U of A's dodgeball record

DODGEBALL ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Yamagishi is undaunted by the new record, and his optimism is not unfounded. The last dodgeball game that the U of A produced ended up with twice as many participants as its previous record, and Yamagishi said he would not be surprised if he can make the magic happen one more time.

"Nobody expected that we would be able to just double it out of nowhere," Yamagishi said. "So why not double it again?"

"It's going to be like the 'Return of the U of A.'"

The Star Wars reference is no mistake: Yamagishi said he is thinking of adding a Star Wars theme to

the next dodgeball event, which is scheduled for after Christmas break on Feb. 3, in the Butterdome.

"That's one of my biggest goals for this year — to make sure that we do bring the record back home," Yamagishi said.

"I want to break the record, because it's one of the few times I feel like our campus is truly working together, like everybody's shooting for one overarching goal."

Now that the date and time has been set for the new game, Yamagishi says all that is really left is to get the word out to the students.

"Since we know the date and have everything set up already, it's really important that all the

professors circulate this. Hopefully they can let their students out of class that day or bring them down to the gym."

Yamagishi is also encouraging students to clear their schedules and book off time for the game.

"Whether we break the record or not, it's really important to have these kind of events just to bring out students," Yamagishi said. "Even if we bring out 3,000 students, that's a crazy amount of student engagement. Just to see that many students get together on campus, that doesn't really happen for anything else. I think it's just really nice to have kind of a capstone event for the year."

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GOLDEN BEARS HOCKEY

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

Fri Oct 7	7:00 PM	Regina
Sat Oct 8	7:00 PM	Regina
Fri Oct 14	7:00 PM	Manitoba
Sat Oct 15	7:00 PM	Manitoba
Fri Oct 21	7:00 PM	Calgary
Oct 22	7:00 PM	@ Calgary
Fri Oct 28	7:00 PM	Saskatchewan
Sat Oct 29	7:00 PM	Saskatchewan
Nov 5 - 6	7PM, 3PM	@ Lethbridge
Fri Nov 11	7:00 PM	British Columbia
Sat Nov 12	7:00 PM	British Columbia
Nov 25 - 26	7:00 PM	@ Regina
Dec 2 - 3	7:00 PM	@ Manitoba
Jan 6	7:00 PM	@ Calgary
Sat Jan 7	7:00 PM	Calgary
Jan 13 - 14	7:00 PM	@ Saskatchewan
Fri Jan 20	7:00 PM	Lethbridge
Sat Jan 21	7:00 PM	Lethbridge
Jan 27 - 28	7:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Feb 10 - 11	7:00 PM	@ Regina
Fri Feb 17	7:00 PM	Lethbridge
Sat Feb 18	7:00 PM	Lethbridge

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Feb 24 - 26	Quarter-Finals
Mar 2 - 4	Semi-Finals
TBA	Finals

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mar 22 - 25	University Cup @ UNB (Fredericton)
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GOLDEN BEARS BASKETBALL PANDAS

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

PANDAS	GOLDEN BEARS	VS
Nov 4 - 5	6:00 PM	@ Manitoba
Fri Nov 11	6:00 PM	Saskatchewan
Sat Nov 12	6:00 PM	Saskatchewan
Nov 18 - 19	6:00 PM	@ Winnipeg
Fri Nov 25	6:00 PM	Trinity Western
Sat Nov 26	6:00 PM	Fraser Valley
Jan 6	6:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Jan 7	6:00 PM	@ Victoria
Fri Jan 13	6:00 PM	Lethbridge
Sat Jan 14	6:00 PM	Lethbridge
Fri Jan 20	6:00 PM	Thompson Rivers
Sat Jan 21	6:00 PM	British Columbia Okanagan
Jan 27 - 28	6:00 PM	@ Calgary
Feb 3 - 4	6:00 PM	@ Regina
Fri Feb 10	6:00 PM	Brandon
Sat Feb 11	6:00 PM	Brandon

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Feb 23 - 26	Quarter-Finals
Mar 2 - 3	Final Four

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mar 9 - 10	Round One @ TBD
Mar 9 - 11	1 @ Halifax
Mar 16 - 18	@ Calgary

NON CONFERENCE GAMES / TOURNAMENTS

Oct 21 - 23	TBA Pandas Hoopfest
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GOLDEN BEARS VOLLEYBALL PANDAS

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

PANDAS	GOLDEN BEARS	VS
Fri Nov 4	6:00 PM	7:30 PM Thompson Rivers
Sat Nov 5	7:30 PM	6:00 PM Thompson Rivers
Nov 11 - 12	6:00 PM	8:00 PM @ Saskatchewan
Fri Nov 18	6:00 PM	7:30 PM Winnipeg
Sat Nov 19	7:30 PM	6:00 PM Winnipeg
Nov 25 - 26	6:00 PM	8:00 PM @ Manitoba
Fri Dec 2	6:00 PM	7:30 PM British Columbia
Sat Dec 3	7:30 PM	6:00 PM British Columbia
Jan 13 - 14	6/5 PM	8/7 PM @ Trinity Western
Jan 20 - 21	6:00 PM	8:00 PM @ British Columbia Okanagan
Fri Jan 27	6:00 PM	7:30 PM Calgary
Sat Jan 28	7:30 PM	6:00 PM Calgary
Fri Feb 3	6:00 PM	7:30 PM Regina
Sat Feb 4	7:30 PM	6:00 PM Regina
Feb 10 - 11	6:00 PM	7:45 PM @ Brandon

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Feb 17 - 19	Quarter-Finals
Feb 24 - 25	Final Four

CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mar 2 - 4	@ McMaster (Hamilton)
	@ Queen's (Kingston)

NON CONFERENCE GAMES / TOURNAMENTS

Jan 6 - 7	Pandas Invitational
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VARSPORTS

PANDAS RUGBY

Oct 2	1:00 PM	@ Lethbridge
Sun Oct 16	1:00 PM	Calgary
Oct 21, 23	CW Finals	@ Calgary
Nov 3 - 6	CIS Championship	@ Trent (Peterborough)

WRESTLING

Jan 6 - 7	Golden Bears Invitational
Feb 10 - 11	CW Finals @ Regina
Feb 24 - 25	CIS Championship @ Lakehead (Thunder Bay)

TENNIS

Aug 9 - 12	University/College Championship @ Toronto
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GOLF

May 28 - Jun 1	University/College Championship @ Victoria
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CURLING

Feb 16 - 18	Western Regional Qualifier @ Manitoba (Winnipeg)
Mar 14 - 18	CIS Championship @ Brock (St. Catharines)

CROSS COUNTRY

Oct 29	Stewart Cup @ Edmonton (Hawrelak Park)
Nov 12	CIS Championship @ Laval (Quebec City)

PANDAS FIELD HOCKEY

Sat Oct 1	1:00 PM	Calgary
Sun Oct 2	1:00 PM	Calgary
Sat Oct 8	1:00 PM	Victoria
Sun Oct 9	1:00 PM	Victoria
Oct 15 - 16	1:00 PM	@ Calgary
Oct 22 - 23	1:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Oct 29 - 30	Tie Breaker (if necessary)	
Nov 3 - 6	CIS Championship @ Calgary	

SWIMMING

Oct 28	3 - 6 PM UofA/UofC Dual Meet
Jan 27 - 29	CW Finals Edmonton (Kinsmen Centre)
Feb 23 - 25	CIS Championship @ Montreal

TRACK AND FIELD

Sun Jan 8	UofA / UofC Dual Meet
Jan 20 - 22	Golden Bears & Pandas Open
Feb 25 - 26	CW Finals @ Saskatchewan (Saskatoon)
Mar 8 - 10	CIS Championship @ Manitoba (Winnipeg)

PANDAS HOCKEY

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

Oct 14 - 15	7:00 PM	@ Manitoba
Oct 21	7:00 PM	@ Calgary
Sat Oct 22	7:00 PM	Calgary
Oct 28 - 29	7:00 PM	@ Saskatchewan
Fri Nov 4	7:00 PM	Lethbridge
Sat Nov 5	7:00 PM	Lethbridge
Nov 11 - 12	7:00 PM	@ British Columbia
Fri Nov 25	7:00 PM	Regina
Sat Nov 26	7:00 PM	Regina
Fri Dec 2	7:00 PM	Manitoba
Sat Dec 3	7:00 PM	Manitoba
Fri Jan 6	7:00 PM	Calgary
Jan 7	7:00 PM	@ Calgary
Fri Jan 13	7:00 PM	Saskatchewan
Sat Jan 14	7:00 PM	Saskatchewan
Jan 20 - 21	7:00 PM	@ Lethbridge
Fri Jan 27	7:00 PM	British Columbia
Sat Jan 28	7:00 PM	British Columbia
Feb 11 - 12	2:00 PM	@ Regina

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Feb 17 - 19	Semi-Finals
Feb 24 - 26	Finals

March 8 - 11
CIS Women's Hockey National Championship

NON CONFERENCE GAMES / TOURNAMENTS

Sat Oct 1	7:00 PM	Mount Royal
Fri Nov 18	7:00 PM	Team Russia

GOLDEN BEARS SOCCER PANDAS

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES

PANDAS	GOLDEN BEARS	VS
Sat Oct 1	NOON	2:15 PM Saskatchewan
Sun Oct 2	NOON	2:15 PM Saskatchewan
Oct 15	NOON	2:15 PM @ Calgary
Oct 16	NOON	2:00 PM @ Lethbridge
Oct 21	5:00 PM	7:15 PM @ British Columbia
Oct 22	5:00 PM	7:00 PM @ Trinity Western
Sat Oct 29	NOON	2:15 PM Manitoba/Fraser Valley
Sun Oct 30	NOON	2:15 PM Regina/Victoria

CANADA WEST PLAYOFFS

Nov 4 - 6	Final Four
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CIS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nov 10 - 13	@ McGill (Montreal)
Nov 10 - 13	@ Victoria

HOME GAME VENUES

- Golden Bears and Pandas Hockey play at Clare Drake Arena 88 Ave. & 115 St.
- Basketball and Volleyball play at GO Centre 11610 - 65 Ave
- Rugby plays at Strathcona Druids Club 524 A Highway 14 X Sherwood Park, Alberta
- Football, Soccer, Tennis, Field Hockey & Curling play at Saville Centre / Foote Field 67 Ave. & 114 St.
- Wrestling, Track and Field & Swimming compete at U of A Pavilion / Van Vliet Centre 87 Ave. & 114 St.

SPECIAL EVENTS

NEW! For details see websites.

FREE LEGACY GAMES

FREE ADMISSION for all U of A Students!

HUDSONS PARTY PASS NIGHTS

- Oct 14, 7 PM, "Tuition for a Term" giveaway Golden Bears Hockey vs Manitoba
- Nov 4, 6 PM, "Tuition for a Term" giveaway Volleyball vs TRU

PICK UP YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

INDIVIDUAL GAME DAY TICKETS

GB Hockey / GB&P Basketball / GB&P Volleyball / GB Football Conference	P Hockey GB&P Soccer Conference/Playoffs	Playoffs
Adult \$15	\$16	\$10
Student/Senior \$10	\$11	\$5
U of A Student \$7	\$8	\$5
(2 Adults, 2-3 Kids) Family \$40	\$40	\$25

* U of A Students must display valid student one card with U-pass stickers.
* Kids 5 and under are free.

WEEKLY TICKET SPECIAL (not available game days)

For upcoming weekend conference games only.
GB Hockey / GB&P Basketball / GB&P Volleyball / GB Football

Adult \$12
Student/Senior \$8
U of A Student \$5

FLEX PACKS & GROUP RATES

- Provides the flexibility to create your own schedule.
- 30% off regular price for groups of 20 or more.

Check our website at www.bears.ualberta.ca for Flex Pack and Group Rates, and availability.

KIDS IN THE CROWD

Conference \$50	- up to 20 kids & 2 adults
Playoffs \$75	- up to 20 kids & 2 adults

SEASON TICKETS

- Early Bird - \$25. Hudsons Gift Certificate (While supplies last).
- 10% off on merchandise sold through the ARZ Sales Office.
- An additional free home opener ticket per season ticket package purchased.

	GB Hockey (14 G)	GB&P Basketball (10 G)	GB&P Volleyball (10 G)	GB Football (4 G)	P Hockey (12 G)	GB&P Soccer (8 G)
Adult	\$126 (\$9/game)	\$90 (\$9/game)	\$90 (\$9/game)	\$36 (\$9/game)	\$96 (\$8/game)	\$64 (\$8/game)
Student / Senior	\$84 (\$6/game)	\$60 (\$6/game)	\$60 (\$6/game)	\$24 (\$6/game)	\$36 (\$3/game)	\$24 (\$3/game)
U of A Student	\$42 (\$3/game)	\$30 (\$3/game)	\$30 (\$3/game)	\$12 (\$3/game)	\$36 (\$3/game)	\$24 (\$3/game)

FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION
780-492-BEAR (2327)

IN ADVANCE at the Activity Registration Zone Sales Office W-79 Lower Level Van Vliet Centre, University of Alberta Campus.

ON EVENT NIGHT at the Ticket Booth prior to entering event. Subject to ticket availability. Advance purchase is recommended.



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Undergraduate research launch marked by new office in SUB

Undergraduate Research Initiative an eight-year project to get off the ground

Alex Migdal
STAFF REPORTER • @ALEXEM

Much like the Undergraduate Research Initiative’s long journey from proposal to reality, cutting the ribbon to its newly opened office in SUB on Tuesday was somewhat of a struggle.

Despite a few shaky tries on the part of U of A Provost Carl Amrhein and Students’ Union Vice-President (Academic) Emerson Csorba, they finally managed to successfully cut the ribbon, officially marking the launch of an initiative that’s been eight years in the making.

The U of A officially announced the URI last year as a \$200,000 investment used to launch several undergraduate research initiatives, including the re-purposing of the CAPS office on the second floor of SUB into an undergraduate research office, and implementing Yaffle, a centralized undergraduate research database.

Discussions for the URI date back to 2003, while task forces were established for the initiative in both 2006 and 2009. But Amrhein credited the persistence of the Students’ Union, which emphasized undergraduate research in its 2009 Academic Plan, and the Graduate Students’ Association in establishing the URI.

“We are ever so carefully and slowly working through something of a revolution in the way administration engages the leaders of the two student organizations,” he added, addressing a crowd mostly comprised of undergraduate researchers and administrators.

Amrhein also announced the next prominent initiative in the “evolution of the remarkable engagement

between central administration and student organizations”: the Sub-Committee on Attributes and Competencies.

The committee’s focus is on developing a core set of skills for students upon graduating from the U of A, and is currently chaired by both of the Vice-Presidents (Academic) from the SU and GSA.

Connie Varnhagen, Academic Director of the URI, explained that undergraduate research has already been prevalent at the U of A for many years, but that the URI is here to “help celebrate it and to help students find relationships and develop skills.”

■ **“There will be funding opportunities and match-making opportunities ... and classes for students to hone their conference presentations.”**

RENEE ELIO
CHAIR, URI ADVISORY BOARD

“We’re really excited,” she added. “We want our students to have a ‘wow experience’ and they are having that ‘wow experience.’”

Dean of Students Frank Robinson shared a personal anecdote of his — he was two marks away from withdrawing in his first year of university, but took an undergraduate research class in his second year, giving him an entirely new perspective on learning.

“It was a real game changer for me because I realized I never thought of going to university to create knowledge as opposed to just memorizing something somebody else had

written down,” Robinson said. “Ever since then, when I came to the U of A 25 years ago, every class I’ve taught has had some element of inquiry-based learning.”

He added that it’s been common for students who were in the bottom 25 per cent of his class to eventually land in the top 20 per cent following their undergraduate research work.

Renee Elio, chair of the URI’s Advisory Board, noted that U of A undergraduate research has been too fragmented in the past, and that the URI’s most important function is centralizing the process. She also pointed out the URI’s role in bringing in more resources to fund undergraduate research opportunities.

“There are so many opportunities that come through the system,” she said. “(The URI) is going to make sure that people know about them. There will be funding opportunities and match-making opportunities, hosting of workshops, drop-in-sessions, and classes for students to hone their conference presentations.”

Vice-President (Research) Lorne Babiuk was more than pleased to see undergraduate researchers in the spotlight, especially after having worked as a summer research assistant himself in his first year of university. He believes that undergraduate research will allow students to develop the critical skills needed to achieve outside of school.

“When you graduate from this university, you will become a better citizen because of the thought processes that you have been trained in during those formative years in research,” Babiuk said. “That’s what really differentiates a research-intensive university from a college.”

campus news briefs

COMPILED BY **Jacquelin Gregoire + Cody Lang**

THE STING OF MODERN SLAVERY

Dispute popular misconceptions, slavery still exists, and as an estimated \$42.5 billion industry, slavery may be the second largest global criminal enterprise.

Action Coalition on Human Trafficking co-ordinator Kimberly Ferland and executive director Andrea Burkhart led a workshop at International House on Thursday to raise awareness about modern day slavery, which they feel often slips beneath public perception in Canada.

“People need to be more aware. It’s an issue that the public is just beginning to learn about,” Burkhart said.

Human trafficking exists in Canada, and the pair explained that it can also be perpetuated by a population that remains largely unaware and uninformed of possible slavery victims.

Although steps have been taken through Bill C-57 to reduce exploitation of foreign national workers in Canada, temporary work permits and exotic dancer visas can tie people to their employers and lead them to fall prey to human trafficking.

“People may know what they’re getting into, but can’t get out when they want,” Ferland said.

The presenters added that mail-order bride services and the “Win a Wife” contest put on by Edmonton’s The Bear radio station seem to imply people’s readiness to support what could potentially become human trafficking.

Ferland and Burkhart noted that, whether the subject has volunteered to participate or not, compliance by a victim in trafficking more often results from poverty or a lack of opportunity and options than genuine will.

“Some people are leaving terrible conditions at home,” Ferland said. “But it creates vulnerability where they lack control over their lives in Canada.”

Ferland singled out a number of industries that she said use slave labour. The cocoa industry, which has raked in \$600 billion in the past 10 years, is primarily

located in West Africa where farms often employ trafficked children.

To discourage such abuse, Ferland said that concerned citizens can encourage more legitimate production methods by using their “buying power” in support of more ethical companies, and she encourages people to learn about and avoid businesses with poor labour standards.

The U of A’s Global Education program has another human trafficking event coming up on Sept. 30 at the U of A’s Arts Based Research Studio, where participants will engage in skits about human trafficking.

ENGINEERING A SUCCESSFUL EXPO

The Engineering Expo last Saturday attracted hundreds of engineers, with lectures from University of Alberta professors Zubin Jacob and Janet Elliot and engineering student groups showing off their creations.

Jacob gave a presentation about the nanotechnology research he has been undertaking at the U of A, which he described as important research that is akin to “staring at invisible objects.” Jacob also answered for attendees the scientific reasons for why the sky is blue, and why clouds are white.

After the lectures, students got a chance to learn more about what engineers do, as they surveyed the information tables scattered throughout the building. Various engineering programs presented their respective work in the field, including current research on the oilsands, new developments in eye-care, and information on career opportunities for engineers entering the job market.

On the main floor, engineering student groups also got a chance to display their work. The Eco-Car team, competing in the upcoming Shell Eco-Marathon in the “urban concept” category, had a model of their eco-car on display, explaining how their car works and showing how they applied what they learned in the classroom.

For the kids, the ‘ENGG Zone’ put on engineering shows that explored the excitement behind engineering, and a free hands-on project which gave kids a chance to build their own catapult and use it to launch objects across the room.

BY-ELECTION CANDIDATES

Students' Council & General Faculties Council By-Election



Arts (GFC): David He

Augustana (GFC): Sam Whittleton

Business (Students' Council): Josh Le

Native Studies (GFC): Brianne Lovstrom

Nursing (GFC): Maggie Danko

Don't forget to Vote! September 29th & 30th

Polling stations will be open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on both voting days.
Online voting from any computer is available at su.ualberta.ca/vote.



www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

FREE SCREENING &
Q + A with director Michael Truscello

Capitalism is not in crisis.

Capitalism
Is The
Crisis.

Sunday, October 2 @ 7:00 pm
Garneau Theatre

www.capitalismisthecrisis.net



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No cover live music
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Big Rock
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\$3.75



From Toronto:
JACK MARKS
October 1st





gateway news

Your Gateway to cracking mechanical mysteries the SU can't solve

NEWS MEETINGS
FRIDAYS AT 3 PM
IN 3-04 SUB

online at THEGATEWAYONLINE.CA/NEWS



AQIB SHIRAZI



DAN MCKECHNIE

Body scanners become fashionable

Cassandra Boschmann
NEWS WRITER

Mass-produced clothing costumers are often frustrated over the clothing industry's inability to make clothing that fits people as individuals, producing instead what some researchers see as arbitrary sizes.

The coming application of 3D body scanners, however, is intended to soothe that consumer frustration.

Susan Ashdown, a professor in the Department of Fiber Science and Apparel Design at Cornell University, spoke at the University of Alberta last week on the many benefits of using 3D body scanning technology in relation to apparel design.

Through the use of a 3D body scanner, Ashdown said researchers are contributing to the mass customization and individualization of clothing.

"(People are) living, breathing, organic, moving and very complex

objects," Ashdown said. "The 3D scanner, however, accounts for the intricacies of the human species."

The scanner, which is made up of multiple lasers and eight cameras, produces a detailed image of its subject in only 12 seconds, and that image can then be used to create clothing specifically designed for the subject's frame. Ashdown compared the scanner to taking 95 measurements with a tape measure in one minute.

"The 3D body scanner provides researchers with the ability to assess the relationship between the body and clothes, thereby increasing the effectiveness of apparel in daily life," Ashdown said, critiquing the fashion industry's current model.

She noted that people don't simply differ in full or half-size increments, and this forces people to choose not the clothes that fit them, but the clothes that come closest to fitting them.

"If you're not the (correct) proportions, the clothes will not fit you,"

she said.

Ashdown believes that the 3D body scanner will alleviate these shortfalls in the apparel industry and make perfect-fitting clothing more accessible to the average consumer.

"The scanner allows for a quick collection of data," explained Ashdown. "Each consumer can be scanned by retailers, in order for (the retailer) to produce precise tailored measurements resulting in well-fitting, on-of-a-kind articles of clothes."

Although the 3D body scanner is seen as a valuable asset to the fashion industry, Ashdown expressed concerns that the device won't be wholeheartedly accepted right away.

She noted that concerns about the cost of the device, as well as the large area it is projected to take-up compared to the limited space available in typical retail departments, have hindered its mainstream adoption.

Researcher revamps BMI obesity test

Rachel Singer
NEWS STAFF

While the general public often views the Body Mass Index (BMI) chart as an indicator of health, one University of Alberta doctor has been involved in developing a new health assessment system that he feels is a more useful measure.

Arya Sharma, the obesity research and management chair at the U of A, thinks that a person's BMI tells you nothing about how healthy they actually are.

"What BMI unfortunately does not tell you is how sick someone is ... So in clinical practice, it is not unusual to see two patients who have identical BMIs; one of them has got diabetes, sleep apnea, fatty liver disease and pain in their hips and joints, and the other person has exactly the same BMI but has none of those problems," Sharma explained.

"And so when you are thinking about who to treat and who not to treat, BMI is not very helpful."

The traditional BMI is a measure obtained when your height and weight measurements are compared. Your BMI tells you and your doctor whether you are underweight, at a normal weight, or overweight according to a standardized chart.

Sharma's team has developed the

Edmonton Obesity Staging System (EOSS), which is meant to assess how healthy or how sick a person is based on symptoms and not on size.

A BMI test might assess an individual as obese. EOSS then places those obese individuals in one of five categories. Stage zero obesity is a patient who has no symptoms as a result of their obesity. Stage one is a patient who has mild preclinical problems, stage two is a patient who has obesity-related health problems such as diabetes or high blood pressure, and stage three is a patient who has organ damage due to their obesity. Stage four is a patient who has organ damage, but the damage is unlikely to be reversible even if the patient lost a significant amount of weight.

"So using the staging criteria you get a much better picture and understanding of how sick your patient is rather than just how big your patient is," Sharma said.

Sharma's team has used their classifying system and applied it to large data sets to see whether the EOSS can reflect the risk of mortality of a patient based on their stage.

"What we found in the two studies that were recently published was that if you use BMI alone there is not a very tight link between BMI and mortality. And so if you told me that certain patient has a certain

BMI then I could not predict how long this patient would have to live or what the life expectancy of that patient is," Sharma said.

"However if you told me the EOSS of that patient — (for example), this is a stage two patient — then I could tell you that for a stage two patient approximately 20 per cent of those patients would have died in next 20 years. And that is quite significant, that's a one per cent mortality risk per year."

Sharma noted that the lack of a direct link between BMI and mortality, compared to the link between EOSS and mortality, is probably a surprise for some people who view health as simply a measure of weight.

"You can't measure health on a scale. You can't just step on a scale and say 'oh I must be unhealthy because my weight is such and such.' No, actually your weight does not really equate to health," Sharma said.

"For patients who don't actually have an obesity-related comorbidity, the benefit of losing weight is not known. So when you ask someone who is otherwise healthy to lose weight, and they go and lose weight and then go and put the weight back on, you might actually be making things worse than if the patient just stayed at the weight they were at and focused on being as healthy as possible at that weight."

Needs-based grants proposed to replace loans in Newfoundland

Paul Hussey

THE MUSE (MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY)

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) — Newfoundland and Labrador's famously affordable post-secondary education could get a whole lot cheaper.

In the same week as an independent poll confirmed that the Progressive Conservatives are well on their way to forming their third-straight majority government, party leader Kathy Dunderdale pledged not only her continued support for the post-secondary tuition freeze in this province, but also the gradual phasing out of student loans altogether and replacing them with upfront needs-based grants.

"Our plan to strategically develop the workforce in Newfoundland and Labrador will give people the ability to effectively match their interests in skilled trades with opportunities in industry," Dunderdale said in a news release.

Dunderdale made the first announcement on Sept. 20 at the College of the North Atlantic in Labrador City, during the first day of her party's campaign. She says that the tuition freeze would be in effect for the full duration of her party's next term of office, if the government is re-elected.

Currently, all signs point toward the return of a PC government. An independent poll conducted by MQO Research, released earlier in the day before Dunderdale's announcement, has the PCs in the lead at 53 per cent, the NDP at 29 per cent, and the Liberals at 18 per cent. The poll took place between Sept. 16 and 18.

The PC party's commitment to scrapping the current student loans program and phasing it into a

needs-based grants program comes on the heels of the NDP making a similar announcement only days earlier, during a press conference at Memorial University.

However, NDP leader Lorraine Michael provided more details on her party's plan to introduce the needs-based grants program. She said the program would be implemented within the first year of being elected, and would offer non-repayable grants to students in the province. That plan is estimated to cost \$4.7 million in its first year, and would then be incrementally increased to a final cost of \$18.9 million.

According to the PCs election platform — their self-dubbed "blue book," released on Sept. 22, titled "New Energy" — they would spend \$52 million to sustain the current tuition freeze until the student loan program is replaced after a four-year transition period. While the PCs plan on spending \$135 million a year on their election promises, Dunderdale said that it's part of a better, more responsible Newfoundland and Labrador.

"New Energy" lays out a strategic, fiscally-responsible plan for more jobs, better health care, stronger partnerships and continued resource development," she said in a release. "We will continue to cultivate conditions conducive to growth."

With all three provincial parties indicating support for an upfront needs-based grants program, it appears all but certain that the province's post-secondary education system is about to make the transition towards free tuition.

The Liberals also proposed their support of the current tuition freeze,



CHA-CHING! Newfoundland students might see debt-incurring loans replaced with non-repayable grants. DAN MCKECHNIE: PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

but the needs-based grants program is phrased somewhat differently in their platform. They're proposing annual, incremental grant increases of \$20 a week, which adds up to \$960 for a full year. With the average cost of attending Memorial University full-time for two academic semesters at roughly \$4,000, the Liberals' format ends up being a four-year transition as well.

According to Jessica McCormick, Newfoundland and Labrador chairperson of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS-NL), her organization's work in the implantation of the Fund the Future campaign and having an "extremely close

working relationship" with the PC government has played a vital role to improvements in post-secondary education.

"When we're advocating for post-secondary education with policy-makers, one of the first things we bring is increasing funding," she said. "We're not looking for a K-Mart-style education — we want something that's high quality. We want students to study in the best labs and classrooms."

Last year, the Fund the Future campaign saw CFS-NL and members of other student unions across the province send 15,000 postcards to Minister of Education Joan Burke.

"This campaign has a simple, but powerful message — increased funding now for our post-secondary system to improve quality, decrease barriers to access, and reduce student debt is an investment in our province's future," said then-chairperson of CFS-NL Daniel Smith in a February 2011 news release.

While Newfoundland and Labrador already boasts the cheapest post-secondary education in the country — not counting residents of Quebec studying in their home province — the implementation of a needs-based grants program would be the first major step in the country towards free education.

Annual General Meeting

Monday, October 17, 2011

6pm

Room 3-06
Students' Union Building

Tentative Agenda

1. Introductory remarks
2. Approval of 2010 - 2011 GSJS Audit (Allen & Associates)
3. Announcements
4. Refreshments

All members (i.e., those with five or more Gateway contributions in the 365 days prior to October 17, and who have registered for membership with a Gateway editor) are asked to attend. If you have made five or more contributions to The Gateway in the 365 days prior to October 17 and would like to become a member, please contact the Editor-in-Chief at eic@gateway.ualberta.ca. This meeting is also open to the public.

For more information, please contact Gateway Business Manager Ashleigh Brown at biz@gateway.ualberta.ca or visit www.thegatewayonline.ca/gsj

THE **gateway**

News Editor

The Gateway is hiring a News Editor.

The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-October, 2011 to the end of April 2012. The successful candidate will be expected to start as soon as possible and will be required to train on at least one issue.

The salary for the position is \$1816.07 per month.

Application deadline OCT 6, 2011 AT 5PM

Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and a portfolio to Gateway Business Manager Ashleigh Brown • (780) 492-6669 biz@gateway.ualberta.ca

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Opinion

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Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Uncompromising view of war needs a wide release

WARCO IS AN UPCOMING VIDEO GAME SET IN A WARZONE WITH A twist: instead of playing a soldier, you take on the role of an embedded journalist accompanying soldiers.

Its Australian developer, Defiant Development, released footage last week that shows how this could take depictions of war in video games in a bold new direction — if it can secure wide release and weather the inevitable incoming criticism.

There's a huge market for video games set in a "realistic" war environment. When Infinity Ward's *Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2* was released in 2009, it made \$550 million in sales in its first five days on the shelf, outdoing the first week sales of the original *Modern Warfare*, and other big-name games such as *Grand Theft Auto IV*, and tickets to the film adaptation of *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. *Modern Warfare 2* is the most recent in a long and popular line of "realistic" war games developed by Infinity Ward, and one of many game series depicting wars from a soldier's point of view.

Defiant's website claims that their game's settings "parallel the revolutionary struggles now sweeping Africa and the Middle East." The video they've presented depicts a first-person perspective of their journalist character observing as soldiers engage with rebel fighters, recording footage and avoiding fire. Defiant claims to be "redefining the action genre," and they might be right — if they can pull it off.

The developer is working with an Australian journalist named Tony Maniety to develop *Warco* and ensure a textured "on the ground" experience in-game. The project promises a non-combatant perspective on war, which is a view sorely overlooked in the immensely popular *Call of Duty* and *Battlefield* series.

Warco has the potential to be a thoughtful meditation on the impact of war on civilians and other non-combatants, and could bring this perspective to a whole new audience. Whether Defiant will succeed or not remains to be seen, but it's a credit to them that they are trying. More to the point, *Warco* suggests a broadening social consciousness amongst game developers, but this sort of expression does not necessarily bode well for sales.

It's not a given that *Warco* will make it to market. In 2009, the developer Atomic Games announced *Six Days in Fallujah*, a game which would follow a unit of U.S. Marines in the early days of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. The process of taking Fallujah included a bloody siege and nearly 6,000 civilian deaths.

The game was almost immediately beset with criticism from peace groups and families of soldiers killed in Iraq, and eventually publisher Konami dropped the title; though the game is apparently complete, it still has not seen release. Left without a means of publication, Atomic Games has since been all but dismantled.

The criticisms levelled against *Six Days in Fallujah* are not entirely without merit. Reg Keys, the father of a British soldier killed in Iraq, stated in the *Daily Mail* that the game "trivializes" the historical events it depicts.

Critically, however, Atomic began work on the game after being approached by Marines who had been deployed in Iraq: they were seeking a venue to tell their personal stories, and these are stories worthy of telling.

Both *Six Days in Fallujah* and *Warco* promise uncompromising depictions of war. These sorts of stories deserve a wide audience, as they present perspectives that frequently go unheard. Even soldier-centric war games like *Modern Warfare 2* focuses on imaginary or anonymous characters. Demonstrating the ugly realities of modern warfare is important work, regardless of medium.

The larger issue at hand here is not the depiction of atrocities or public demand for such games: if *Modern Warfare 2*'s sales are any indicator, the market exists, and blog comments about *Warco* have thus far been almost entirely encouraging. The problem lies in a publishing industry that is afraid to be perceived as taking a political stand: it could cut into sales. *Warco* has yet to secure a publisher at all, and whether Defiant will be able to find someone to bring their game to market is yet to be seen.

A game like *Warco* is a gamble both in terms of its unconventional format and its potentially controversial content. The indie gaming market and services like Microsoft's Xbox Live Arcade and Valve's Steam provide alternate channels for smaller developers to publish their games, but something as potentially valuable as *Warco* — to gamers and the public at large — merits a wider release.

Any depiction of warfare not experienced first-hand will necessarily be mediated, whether through games like *Modern Warfare 2* or war films and books. *Warco* promises a more honest, complete view of the complexities of contemporary war-making — and it is the kind of view the public deserves.

Dan McKechnie
PHOTO EDITOR



RYAN BROMSGROVE

letters to the editor

Reader expresses praise for *The Gateway*

I've attended three different post-secondary schools in my life and I have to say that *The Gateway* has been the best student newspaper out of all them. You guys have intelligent and interesting articles that make me think and laugh. Keep up the good work.

Alex Goatcher
ALUMNI

Train conductor spreads appreciated joy

I was riding the LRT to school the other day, my normal unhappy, tired self, when the conductor came over the speakers of the train.

Normally, this is met with groans and unhappy passengers because it means something is wrong with the train or there is going to be delays. That day, however, it was different. The conductor just wanted to chat. He went on about the beautiful weather, the time, fact that we were on schedule, and thanked us all for being on the train.

He made jokes about it almost being the weekend, how chipper everyone looked, how happy we all seemed to be up that early, and the like. I noticed most people on the train chuckling to themselves at what he was saying, and most people had a smile on their face where moments before there had been a frown.

Once we got to University Station,

he spoke specifically to us university students, telling us to "Carpe Diem, seize this day my friends." This man had probably been up for hours already, doing a job most people in this city would think is unsavoury and beneath them.

Even so, he took time out of his day to be happy, personable and try to cheer up the passengers on his train that probably didn't want to be awake at that time. I am definitely not a morning person, but just hearing this man enjoying his job and trying to make the train ride more fun for everyone truly made my day.

I just wanted to say thank you, Mr. Conductor, and that I'm pretty sure I speak for almost everyone on that train when I say your services and cheer did not go unnoticed.

Keep it up.

Alan Polasek
EDUCATION V

FROM THE WEB

Mediocre girls kind of undesirable, but sex trade clean

Re: ("Paying for sex: Legitimate or fornication faux pas?" by Andrew Jeffrey and Tyler Hein, Sept. 22)

Wow Andrew, great perspective you offered on this issue. Barf.

You have no idea what you're talking about and it sounds like your sexual experience is very limited. I laughed when you said you rather take advantage of that poor medicore girl than rather pay for sex.

Ha! So you'd rather take advantage of some girl's emotions because lets be honest, no one wants to end up with the mediocre girl. Also, your definition of sex is completely biased and you sound like some Jesus freak when it comes to how someone should think about sex. Also, if you have any clue on the sex trade, these girls get checked often, so there's everything clean about it.

Why don't you grow a pair!

"ChuckRock"
VIA INTERNET

Sometimes, style is all that matters

Re: ("Harper's stance on terrorism targets the wrong problem" by Mustafa Farooq, Sept. 21)

Man, you can disagree with his opinions all you want, but at least Obama acts cool.

Harper is such a nerd.

Rose Ou
VIA INTERNET

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student identification number to be published.

Conservative omnibus crime bill driven by blind ideology



Adrian Lahola-Chomiak
OPINION STAFF

Once again, the Harper government has shown its agenda is driven by ideology instead of the pragmatism mandated by a global recession. The introduction of bill C-10, better known as the omnibus crime bill, will take Canada — at a time of historic lows in criminal activity — in the wrong direction.

Instead of contributing to the falling trend, this bill will needlessly burden our justice system by extending mandatory minimum sentences for drug, sex and violent crimes.

It rehashes the tired idea that stricter penalties are the best deterrent and that jails are the most effective tool of sociological change. Much of this rests on the unfounded assertions and speculation — and apparent allergy to evidence — which have come to define the federal Tories.

It's strange that the government would choose to introduce this bill with crime at its lowest point since 1973, according to statistics Canada, and equally odd to hear Conservative MPs talk about how these numbers hide the increase in unreported crime. How exactly the government has been able to monitor the change in unreported crime is a mystery to everyone, including those eggheads who have been such a continual thorn in the side of the Harper government.

Criminologists, sociologists and defence lawyers, people who both with the rigours of empirical evidence and reason, generally oppose the kind of "tough on crime"

"These new expensive measures are being introduced on the heels of a global recession and climbing national deficit, which seems to be a contradictory move for a party that campaigned loudly and successfully on claims of fiscal conservatism."

legislation being introduced, since it burdens the capacity of the justice system and does little to address the systemic causes of crime in society.

This July, Statistics Canada reported, "In 2010, police-reported crime in Canada continued its downward trend. Both the volume and severity of crime fell from the previous year, down 5 per cent and 6 per cent respectively." This flies in the face of proponents who claim that increasing crime levels are making our communities less safe. What sort of crime would do this is up for debate, but the ambiguity caused by sticking to claims of unreported crimes allows the government to crack down on whatever they see ideologically fit. And nowhere is this more apparent than in the changes for drug-related offences.

One new addition in the sentencing is the doubling of the maximum possible jail time for production of marijuana from seven to 14 years. Proponents believe that this will discourage people from buying and selling the drug. However, all it is likely to accomplish is stressing jails and wallets by keeping these non-violent offenders locked up at a cost to the government — thus all taxpayers.

Furthermore, minimum mandatory sentences for some drug charges now exceed those for some sex crimes. For example, a medium-sized growing operation on rented land could get you about 18 months in prison, whereas luring a child via the internet carries a charge of only one year.

These new expensive measures — with the associated costs of building and staffing new prisons — are being introduced on the heels of a global recession and climbing national deficit, which seems to be a contradictory move for a party that campaigned loudly and successfully on claims of fiscal conservatism.

While it's difficult to argue against harsher sentences for violent and repeat offenders than it is against the baseless drug war, the same financial considerations apply. Arresting more people and keeping them locked up for longer is not a sound move to make while cutting funds severely elsewhere. This bill cements a misguided incarceration policy, which promotes the idea that the problem with public safety in Canada is a lack of "tough" sentencing.

This bill is set to become the law because of an agenda driven not by reason and evidence, but ideology and exploitation of fear. We really shouldn't be surprised: we see it again and again from the Conservatives.

Copyright law and the census are just two other examples of things Harper has attacked from his conservative pedestal with equal disregard for empirical evidence and reason. Through this, "getting tough" is simply burdening the justice system. The Prime Minister has once again failed to crack down on the systemic problem of ideological bias which has become so pervasive as to define his party and his government.

Troy Davis execution put drawbacks of the death penalty on display



Garret Rosser
OPINION WRITER

Despite the rhetoric, there is only one argument for the death penalty: revenge. Some people got that with last week's cruel absence of justice, when Troy Davis was killed by lethal injection in a Georgia prison.

This was his third execution date after two previous stays, and Davis died amid a storm of controversy, with a number of witnesses who have rescinded their original testimonies against him.

Davis had been living on death row for more than 20 years, jailed for the 1989 murder of Georgia Police officer, Mark Macphail, by a grand jury when he was only 19 years old. Doubts surfaced about the conviction when the request to a second trial, citing ineffective counsel, was denied.

And since 1996, seven of nine key witnesses have recanted their testimony. They originally testified in the midst of police intimidation and coercion, they later claimed.

Not only that, but three people have signed sworn affidavits attesting to the involvement of Redd Cole, one of the remaining unrecanted eyewitnesses, in the murder.

And darkest of all, the judge

overseeing the final federal hearing ruled that in order to overturn the original jury, Davis' counsel had to not only cast doubt on evidence used against him, but provide clear evidence that he was not guilty.

So Davis was guilty until proven innocent.

Courts convict and sentence based on arguments of probability. The reasonable doubt standard demands high probability, but it's still different from absolute certainty.

It is a sadistic turn of justice that points the principle of retribution towards retaliation and turns it's back on reconciliation and rehabilitation.

Regardless, many courts in the United States still have the power to prescribe the most absolute sentence: death. The sentence of death is a punishment that has no margin, no room for error.

Even a supporter of the death penalty should admit that such an absolute punishment should only be exacted on those whose guilt can be proven without a doubt, and not if there is a single chance of innocence, as there clearly is and always was here.

Even expert examination of

evidence is not immune to error. Charles Smith is one example. A pathologist, his autopsies in shaken baby syndrome cases have been called into question, leading to many of the cases in which he testified being re-examined. Whenever sentencing anyone to death, the standard of evidence should be of the absolute utmost importance.

Nevertheless, the original sentence condemning Davis took into consideration no forensic evidence, no fingerprints and no DNA.

He was condemned solely on the basis of testimony — which is notoriously unreliable — much of which has been recanted. Guilty or not, he should have never been sentenced to death based on mere testimony.

We're all agreed on the fundamental, universal nature of the right to life. Yet courts around the world commonly throw this out when it comes to the death penalty.

Those who receive it are often convicted of severe, premeditated crimes. They're deemed irredeemable, now only able to make the ultimate reparation.

It is a sadistic turn of justice that points the principle of retribution towards retaliation and turns it's back on reconciliation and rehabilitation. At best, it's a justice system's way of just giving up on a person.

In Davis' case, however, the justice system lazily gave up several times, without even taking the time to bother to properly establish guilt.

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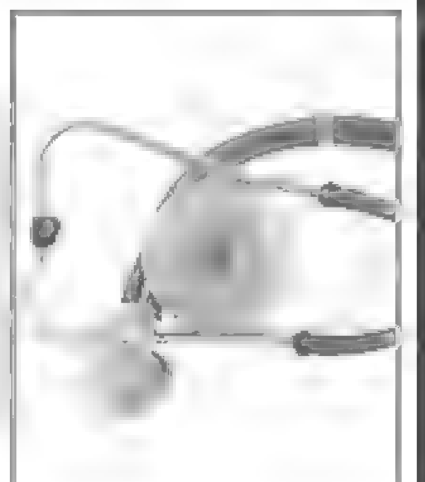


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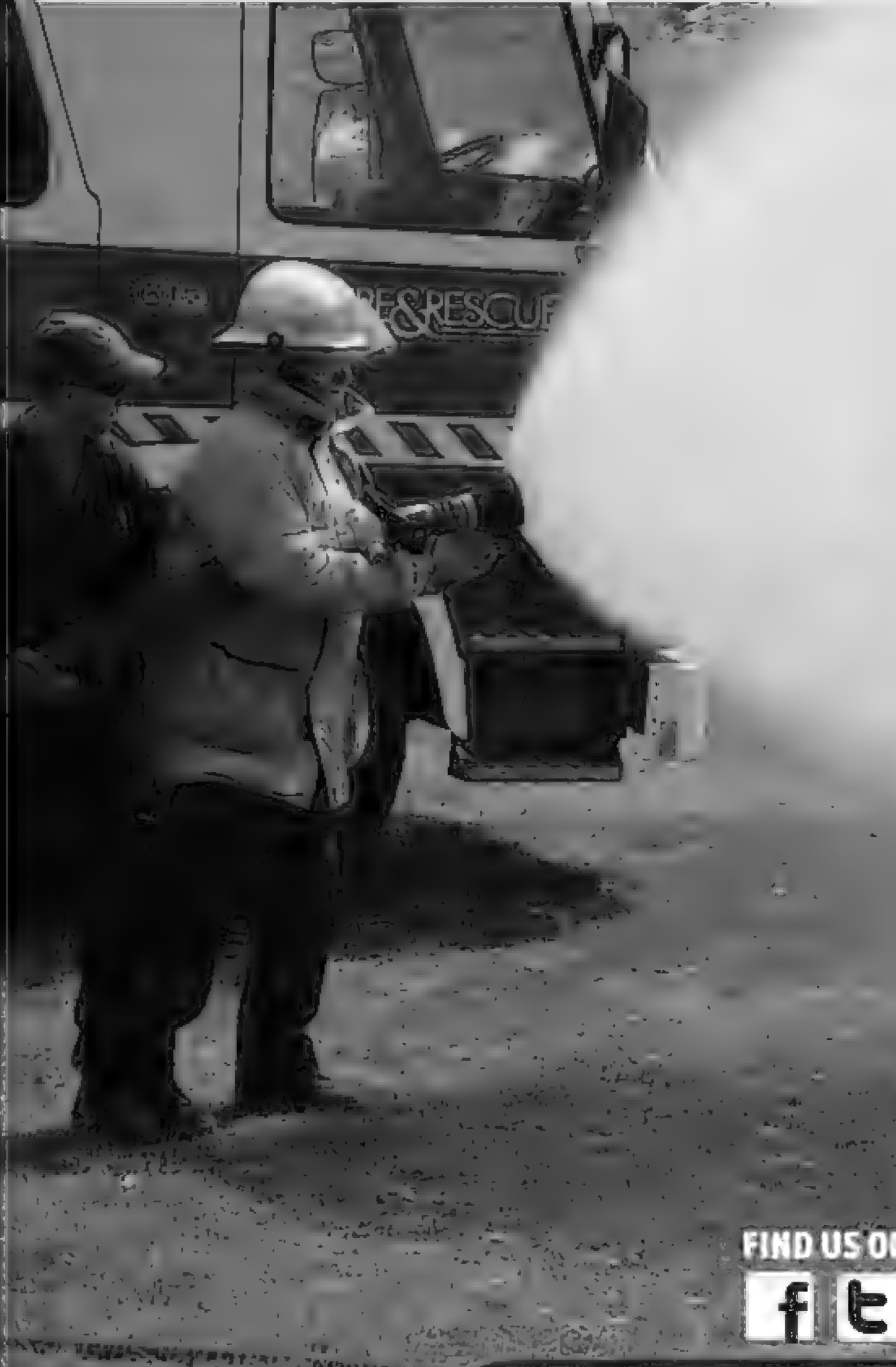
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Reduced liquor store hours won't help curb violence



Katelyn Hoffart
OPINION WRITER

The late night rum-runners of Edmonton are going to have to run a little further to get their alcohol fix in some neighbourhoods. But despite Edmonton Police Service's hopes, they'll still get it.

The police have recently considered implementing earlier closing hours for liquor stores, and seek to limit hard liquor availability, throughout high-risk areas in Edmonton. While the plans for a progressive plan are still underway, so far, reducing late hours in businesses seems to be the only suggestion available.

Though you might think this has been floated in response to this year's homicide count, police Chief Rod Knecht claims it's not specifically to do with the murders. Instead, it's set to target violence in certain areas.

These early closures may limit access to alcohol, but this will only be a minor inconvenience to those looking to get their booze fix, rather than deterring consumption and correcting societal issues. If one

store is closed earlier than usual, it's as simple as making a short trip over to the next neighbourhood to buy alcohol — or just some simple planning. And if there were to be less hard liquor on the shelf, it still won't inhibit someone's ability to become intoxicated and cause trouble.

Simply reducing liquor store hours and restricting the types of alcohol sold in high risk areas isn't going to move us drastically away from disorder...

Targeting the products available at liquor stores and their operational hours isn't going to fix the issues in these areas. The stores simply provide a commodity; it's the people under the influence of alcohol that cause the problems.

And while the city provides a variety of free services and counselling in regards to alcoholism and violence, citizens need to be willing to take advantage of them to assist others, or even themselves.

But this all sounds a lot like mere wishful thinking, as opposed to real

action, which is troubling in situations like this one with potentially deadly consequences. Rather than target local businesses, the city should instead focus on community-strengthening programs and similar initiatives, as well as education for those at risk on both ends for alcoholism and violence.

Not all instances of alcohol-related violence and crime are foreseeable. Dispatching more forces to the street has proven effective for areas such as Whyte Avenue, where police have been able to monitor and control alcohol-fuelled disorder. Unfortunately, the police can't hang around every liquor store in Edmonton waiting to bust troublemakers, nor every house where there might be people drinking, and this is where they need to come up with more innovative solutions.

Simply reducing liquor store hours and restricting the types of alcohol sold in high risk areas isn't going to move us drastically away from disorder, nor prevent those who would cause it. If alcohol fuels violence as much as the police force seems to think, this is not an appropriate solution, and we're going to have to wait a long time to see alcoholism effectively dealt with.

This tactic doesn't address the people who abuse alcohol — it dismisses them for the sake of looking like the police force is doing something.

Reclaiming the dodgeball record should be our highest priority

RETALIATION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

No, we weren't going to take your shit like that place in San Diego took ours. We hit back under the leadership of last year's VPSL, and this year's president, Rory Tighe.

We obliterated your puny record with 2,012 students, almost doubling our original victory. We set an entirely arbitrary number as the goal, and hit it dead on. We knew we could gather more students, but we didn't need to.

But you guys went all out. Opening this game up to all students in the first week of school — thus the week of the year that students care about dumb shit the most — and not holding back, now we know the full extent of your power. But this two-year dodgeball arms race will soon

finally come to a close.

With 27,000 students, your 4,000-person record is impressive, to be sure. But at the University of Alberta, we have 30,000 undergraduates alone, with another 7,000 angry grad students to call upon. And we have a long, cold winter that drives us to obsess over relatively minor goals in the pursuit of forgetting, however fleetingly, the freezing blizzards and knee-deep snow.

And we have a new leader, one who must surely bring us our final victory, or face the agonizing shame of being "that guy." This year's VPSL is the inimitable and excitable Colten Yamagishi — or, as he may come to be known should he succeed, Colten "the Conqueror" Yamagishi.

If you don't secure us our record, as your two predecessors did before you, Yamagishi, you will be single-handedly responsible for the inevitable suffocating gloom that shall surely unforgivingly envelop campus in the weeks following any failed attempt. No man should bear that responsibility, yet the hands of fate are cruel, and bear it you nonetheless do.

It's all on you, buddy. Disappointment and depression, leading directly to poor grades campus-wide, or unbelievable glory — leading directly to uncountable smiles, high fives and a well-deserved superiority complex.

This year, UC Irvine has got to suck it once and for all. And you, Yamagishi, have to step our game up and make this sucking happen.

#3LF

three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelines-free, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

Cool Humanities Fishbowl Trick: You can get to room L-4 by cutting through room L-1. Just don't do it if you are late for class...

Two chemists walk into a bar. The first one says to the bartender, "I'll have some H₂O." The second one says, "I'll have some H₂O too." The second chemist dies.

I tried to find a funny chem joke but all argon.

Dear L'Express Thai Veggie Wraps, You make me jizz in my vegan pants.

Much Love, Zobo

Oh my golly, did no one tell the Lister first years that wearing their lanyard around their neck makes them look like a doof?

So many cocky freshmen. :|

Dear cute guy in cmp 272 class, you're cute.

Female seeking attractive male to help achieve goal of incredibly hot, no strings attached sex on campus before spring Graduation.

Mr. X who?

Miss you lots, Steph.

If you like Glee, I hate you.

What's with the stupid golf carts racing across campus nearly hitting students? They aren't carrying seniors or the handicapped, but able-bodied lazy people!

Happy birthday me!

Fashion Streeters: Sponsored by Gravity Pope Shoes. (?)

Darcy is being pretty optimistic if he thinks any female will bear the offspring of his solipsistic ass.

You know, I'm pretty sure my Booster Juice is supposed to have a consistency that is thicker than that of water.

Poli sci students hate 210 because they actually have to read something occasionally and not just divert the teacher with "Current Events" in the first five minutes.

The so-called "Streeters" usually respond like kindergarteners. "NO MARKS! OR SCHOOL!"

So boys, I for one want to fuck, so please find me... quickly.

Why do Cram Dunk coffee cups leak so much? Every other place has it figured out.

where the F*CK is the MICROWAVE FROM CHEM SECOND FLOOOOOR

WHAT IS RED AND INVISIBLE?!

no tomatos.

Twilight Sparkle, you really spiff my spike.

Where are all the cute bearded men on campus?

Still needs more ponies

It's time to end anti-gay bullying



Ashley Janes
OPINION WRITER

The plight of Jamey Rodemeyer last week serves as a harsh reminder that anti-gay bullying is still taking lives.

The 14-year-old boy killed himself on Sept. 18 after enduring years of bullying for being gay. His body was discovered by parents Tracy and Tim Rodemeyer early Sunday morning outside their home in Buffalo. It's yet another nightmare made real by the anti-LGBTQ current still running strong across North America. Maybe you also remember Tyler Clementi, 19, who jumped from the George Washington Bridge into the Hudson River last September, or Asher Brown, 13, who shot himself not a month later in Texas. Both youths suffered the same bullying Jamey did for being gay.

No one should feel as desperate as Rodemeyer did when he wrote: "I always say how bullied I am, but no

one listens ... What do I have to do so people will listen to me?" Saying as much should've been enough.

In the past year, he'd come out to his family and friends, grateful for their love and support. But sometimes approval from loved-ones is marginalized when you face the hate he did. "Go kill yourself, you're worthless, ugly and don't have a point to live," appeared on Rodemeyer's Formspring account in May, along with others incorporating even worse anti-gay sentiments.

Outside his sphere of loved ones, he also sought the help of school counsellors, therapists and online support networks like sex advice columnist Dan Savage's "It Gets Better" project, where LGBTQ adult survivors of bullying are encouraged to post videos telling stories of their courage and survival so that targeted youths have access to inspiration and hope. Rodemeyer posted a video four months before his suicide, telling viewers: "Love yourself and you're set. ... I promise you, it will get better." Although programs like these are invaluable, Rodemeyer's death proves that they're not enough.

That he had anti-bullying support at his fingertips but still felt like suicide was the only option speaks volumes about the work still to be done, and the true cost of bullying. We can offer oceans of support to people suffering through bullying, but it will only carry targeted youths so far.

We also must make bullies accountable for their actions so they know what they're doing is not permitted. If we ignore them, and focus only on their targets, we're allowing the bullying to persist.

At the least, we can hope those who drove Jamey to suicide feel guilt, but eliminating the mindset that leads to this behaviour is clearly still a major problem. It may seem like an impossible task, but we must take action to deal with this current of hate now, or face more youths like Rodemeyer, Clementi and Brown ending their lives. Support programs like "It Gets Better" or Avan Jogia's "Straight But Not Narrow." Be outspoken in your community about the repercussions of bullying. But most importantly, stand up for LGBTQ human rights and step in to stop bullying whenever you see it.

the marble pedestal

by Lisa Ming Fallop

If you're a returning student, you've probably noticed the recent changes to our campus.

And if you're like me, it was probably with a scathing twinge of jealousy that the powers that be chose your graduating year to show off their new toys to this year's frosh — who are probably still too hung over from the Beer Gardens, even now weeks later, to notice.

And if you really are like me, you probably did a double take in front of the magical new water bottle-filling devices in SUB.

These new machines are the most brilliant idea our peers at the Students' Union have had in a long while — I'm looking at you, completely unnecessary and plentiful 46" LCD TVs that nobody looks at.

If you somehow managed to miss this phenomenon, I'll lay it out for you: the two water fountains near the food court area

of SUB are now equipped with a device that automatically senses when a water bottle is put in front of it and dispenses that cool, glorious H₂O right into the bottle.

That's nothing short of completely amazing.

No more holding up the line as the water drips its way in. No more awkwardly juggling your textbooks in one hand, your water bottle held loosely in the other, hopping around on one foot as you jam your other knee into the press-bar.

No more water dribbling down your chin as you make a less-than-stellar impression on your friend walking inconveniently through the SUB doors trying drastically to avoid you and your overenthusiastic spittle — just imagine the possibilities.

So I'm putting you, magical water bottle-filling devices and the masterminds behind you, on the lofty Marble Pedestal this week.

You've saved me from a few dozen potential drooling mishaps — oh, and you're not doing a bad job encouraging reusable bottle usage either.

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The very best conspiracy theories ever dreamt up



Opinion Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

Conspiracy theories exist about pretty much anything you can be wrong about. But how is the discerning partaker of conspiracy to choose the very best? Here's a selection to help take you from intrepid internet investigator to full-on information freedom fighter.

Adrian Lahola-Chomiak

Listen up sheeple, because I'm about to drop an atomic truth bomb all over you. Right now, somewhere in the world, nine exorbitantly wealthy and powerful people are sitting around a table, eating raisin bran muffins and planning where next they can sneak in images of obelisks, pentagrams and the all-seeing eye.

That's right, just open up your little brainwashed thought box and look around you for a second. Denver airport, the American dollar bill, those pills I don't take; what do they all have in common? They're all products of the banker-controlled, corporatist, socialist conspiracy of oppression called the New World Order.

This shadowy cabal runs our world from behind a slew of puppet politicians and dummy corporations. How do I know this? Because I saw some shit I didn't understand on a Snickers bar or something and obviously it is more likely that this is the result of a widespread conspiracy than my own cognitive bias.

Just look long and hard enough at anything and you'll find the oily fingerprint of this sinister group. For example, the name "Pentagon" may seem harmless enough, but if you lose letters p, e, t, a, g, replace the o with a w and lose the second n, it spells NWO.

I'm not saying that you're a robot programmed to consume. I'm saying it's time for all of you to wake the fuck up and choose the red pill, 'cause the New World Order is here, and they're standing right behind you.

Oh, wait. No, that's just aliens.

Qwais Yahya

Thanks to British writer David Icke, we have no shortage of ridiculous conspiracy theories. This lunatic thinks the world is controlled by humanoid lizards who disguise themselves as our governments. To make things worse, he thinks they originally came from outer-space and inter-bred with humans to make a super-breed of lizardmen who would eventually control all world politics and economics.

You'd think we'd notice if our world were controlled by reptiles, but Icke argues that they eat humans to enable themselves to shape-shift and mask their true identity. But unfortunately the batshit crazy doesn't end there. Why does Icke believe that the U.S. has been fighting a multitude of wars over the past decade? Because the resulting death and destruction provides the country's reptilian presidents and government officials with "energy." Yes, life-energy from people dying half-way around the world somehow travels back to



THEY'RE ALREADY HERE Secret lizardmen control the world. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAN MCKECHNIE

America and rejuvenates American politicians better than Herbal Essences does teenage girls.

Icke is immensely popular all around the world, frequently giving talks in front of upwards of thousands of people — though it is unclear how many actually believe, and how many go just to have a good laugh.

Nathan Chu

A good conspiracy theory is fun for everyone — except the actual theorists. Being enlightened to the grandiose truth of things is not enough. After all their hours of scouring the internet in their parents' basement and the countless wipe-downs of keyboards to clean the Cheetos dust, they need others to know.

Take alien conspiracists for example. In their spare time — which is all the time because "conspiracist" is not an actual job — they're usually scanning the forums at www.thetruthisoutthere.com as FoxMulder_Fan77. Even though UFOs and their associated crop circles have time and again been shown to be mirages, aircraft, clouds, or some idiot with a plank of wood and a lot of spare time, they respond with, "That's what the government wants you to think!"

This universal response is almost as irritating as when you try to explain how utterly sorry you feel for them, they interrupt you mid-sentence to proclaim "Open your eyes! And look to the skies!" followed by a 180 degree turn coupled with an outstretched arm pointing upwards.

But best of all is the "alien abductee." Because of their first-hand experience, they are often brimming with zeal that extraterrestrials exist and that the government budget allots for a suspicious amount of black suits and sunglasses. The vagueness of their abduction event damns them, with no recollection except for flashing

lights, fog coming out of something and severe anal pain the morning after acting as confirmation of intergalactic contact.

No, that's just a really bad vodka bender.

Ryan Stephens

"Hey buddy, did you know Obama controls the weather?" That valuable nugget of information was given to me by a rain-soaked vagrant on a particularly stormy day as I studied at the library downtown.

Of course, he is referring to the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program, or HAARP. Officially, HAARP is used by the American government to study and manipulate the properties of the ionosphere with the purpose of bettering communications. Unofficially, and just between you and me, this Alaska-based initiative is aimed at destroying the world, one natural disaster at a time.

Here's how it works: a series of antennae shoot high frequency radio waves into the ionosphere, causing it to heat up and do all kinds of unnatural things. Those unnatural things are then studied by the powers that be. What they don't want you sheeple to know is that this heating of the atmosphere could conveniently lead to massive earthquakes. In fact, several believe that HAARP is responsible for the recent earthquakes in Haiti and Japan.

But it gets worse. It's well-known that almost any new technology that is developed will eventually end up used for war, and this is just another example. For the United States to be able to instantly toss a couple of tsunamis over another country at whim puts them at an unbelievable advantage.

They have a firm chokehold on mother nature, and there's no telling what else they'll do with her. Well, that's according to the vagrant, at least.

ASS OF THE WEEK?




Last week, Iranian President Ahmadinejad gave another of his famous UN speeches, again undermining himself by bringing along his Holocaust and 9/11 denialism. Is he actually crazy, or just an ass?

gateway opinion

MEETINGS WEDNESDAY AT 5 IN 3-04 SUB

continues on page 16

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A real sticky situation for ginger sperm

Disallowing redhead donations a simple business decision



Ian Phillipchuk
POINT

This is not an equality issue: let's get that out of the way at the start. My opponent will likely try to play this as some form of discrimination against those delightful pale redheaded folks, when it's a simple case of supply and demand.

To treat it as anything else is doing a disservice to the debate and to gingers themselves, while ignoring the valid economic point that the sperm banks are making: no one wants ginger jizz.

If you're unfamiliar with the issue, Cryos, an international Danish sperm bank network, is now rejecting applicants with a full head of red hair.

Cryos argues that demand is so low that the stockpiles they already have on hand are more than adequate for meeting the needs of anyone who wants a redhead inside them without actually having a redhead inside them.

The company is not arguing that no one wants a redheaded stepchild — in fact, demand for fiery hair is at record levels in Ireland — rather that they have enough supply to meet the demand.

In another case of being blown out of proportion, it's clear that Carrotop and his media cronies have raised a mountain where a molehill should exist. Sensing red blood in the water, they have pounced early and didn't even fact check their stories: the N.Y. branch of Cryos is even putting a call out for more redheaded donors.

You see, facing too little spooze supply, the call has been put out for additional redhead street skeet because of a lack of donors that

manager Ty Kaliski points out were excluded not because the color of their hair, but because of their unsuitability to be a donor. Presumably, they were unable to locate their penis sufficiently quickly.

The CEO of the spank-for-cash spunk bank looked at a balance sheet and saw that the 70 litres of goo they have on their hands ... are more than enough to cover the demand for miniature Gillian Andersons.

While I'm sure the National Association for the Advancement of Ginger People would love to make this a tiresome race issue once again, the simple fact of the matter is the CEO of the spank-for-cash spunk bank looked at a balance sheet and saw that the 70 litres of goo they have on their hands — eww — are more than enough to cover the demand for miniature Gillian Andersons.

Maybe instead of inserting rules and regulations into this seminal industry, we should be focusing our attention on changing public opinion of this fiery brand of person. That way, instead of forcing Cryos to stockpile more baby juice than they need, we can work on the demand side, increasing the self-image and societal value of an entire swath of the public at the same time. What could be a more noble cause?

Maybe to get this effort started, we could try sending some attractive members of the ginger population door to door, lobbying people to increase their opinions of our red-headed neighbours.

Heck, send Christina Hendricks, Amy Adams and Alyson Hannigan over to my place and I'll do some lobbying of my own.

Gingers are the best; Cryos should be stimulating demand



Alana Willerton
COUNTERPOINT

I love gingers. I love their fiery orange-red hair, their freckly skin and that feisty attitude they all seem to have. I love the way they always stand out in a crowd and the way they look in green. If I'm being honest, there really isn't anything I don't love about redheads. Those gorgeous gingers have cast a spell on me with their blazing red locks that cannot be broken. And everyone else should love them just as much.

So when I heard that Cryos was rejecting the sperm of redheads, I was horrified. And angered. Ignore the cold hard numbers that Cryos is appealing to when justifying the ban; numbers mean nothing when we're talking about populating the world with ginger babies.

This should be humanity's top priority, and ceasing donations means that Cryos isn't doing its part to work toward it. If they have too much of the stuff, they should try encouraging more use by mentioning some of the fine redheaded specimens we already have.

Nobody's complaining about Emma Stone, Conan O'Brien, or Jessi Cruickshank — they're all famous, good looking and hilarious to be sure, but most importantly, they're all gingers. Faced with the fine examples of redheaded wonder like those wandering around, people are frankly wrong to not want more of them.

But aside from all that, the fact that I want it should be enough. My one comfort all these years was that if I couldn't have red hair, then perhaps there was hope for the future minims that will one day roam this earth.

Perhaps they could carry on the ginger lineage

that I have to believe runs somewhere deep within my blood.

But now that Cryos is turning down redheaded sperm donors, they're putting a serious kink in my plans.

Look, if the low demand is such a problem, they should try having a sale. Perhaps a couple of two-for-one deals. Or maybe they should start mixing the ginger sperm in with the rest.

While I certainly could, yes, drop by and pick up some of their existing supply, just because their ginger sperm isn't flying off the shelf doesn't mean I shouldn't be able to have my pick of the crop. Maybe I'm going to want a blue-eyed carrot top baby. But then I change my mind and want a fiery, freckled hazel-eyed one. Or maybe I'll be feeling like an auburn haired, green-eyed cherub when the time comes around.

Whatever I end up deciding, I want a sizeable variety of choices and they're not going to have that if they keep turning away new potential donors. By denying gingers the chance to donate their sperm, they are essentially denying me my hopes and dreams, and that will not stand.

Look, if the low demand is such a problem, they should try having a sale. Perhaps a couple of two-for-one deals. Or maybe they should start mixing the ginger sperm in with the rest. Not only will this help get rid of some of this pesky surplus, but it will create more gingers at random, thus increasing the demand in the future.

When you think about it, it makes perfect sense. After all, the world desperately needs more gingers — they just don't know it yet.






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social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Alana Willerton**

Royal Wood

With Danielle Duval
Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 8 p.m.
The Artery (9535 Jasper Ave.)
Sold out

While his name may still be unfamiliar to some, Royal Wood is a burgeoning talent whose recent success guarantees that this won't be the case for long. Now a Juno-nominated artist, Wood's talents were first brought to the fore after being named the 2010 iTunes Songwriter of the Year. He then embarked on several national tours with artists like David Gray, Serena Ryder and Sarah Slean. His latest album *The Waiting* proves that everyone wasn't wrong about Wood, featuring more of his signature smooth ballads and finger-snapping pop songs. Having spent years working his way to the top, Royal Wood is finally in the spotlight, and deservedly so.

Matching Jack

Featured at the Edmonton International Film Festival
Written by Lynne Renew
Directed by Nadia Tass
Starring Jacinda Barrett, Richard Roxburgh and Tom Russell
Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 5 p.m.
Empire City Centre Theatre (10200-102 Ave.)

This year marks the 24th anniversary of Edmonton's International Film Festival, and they're showing some of the best films to grace the festival in recent years. Nominated for the 2011 Best International Indie Film award, *Matching Jack* is no exception. The story follows Marissa (Jacinda Barrett), a young mother who discovers that neither she nor her husband David (Richard Roxburgh) are a bone marrow match for their leukemia-riddled son. Desperate to save him, Marissa goes looking for a match in the only place left that she can think of: the children of the women her husband cheated on her with.

From Books to Film

Stanley A. Milner Library
(7 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
Friday, Sept. 30 at 2 p.m.
Free

Libraries aren't just about books nowadays, and they're proving it with *From Books to Film*, a weekly program hosted by the Edmonton Public Library that showcases a film that's been adapted from a novel. Past films have featured classics like *The Girl Can't Help It* and *Amadeus*, and more recent hits including *Control* and *Crazy Heart*. This week's pick is *Walk the Line*, the 2005 biopic of country legend Johnny Cash, starring Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon.

Smash Mouth

Saturday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m.
River Cree Resort and Casino
(300 East Lapotac Boulevard)
\$29.50 at rivercreetickets.com

Smash Mouth is responsible for many an infectiously catchy pop song over the years, and now's your chance to hear them all in one night. Known for their energetic covers of songs like War's "Why Can't We Be Friends?" and The Monkees' classic "I'm a Believer," the nice thing about a band like Smash Mouth is that you don't have to take them too seriously. You go to see them with the intent of having a good time — something the group surely won't fail to deliver.



Data Romance flirts with new audio ideas

MUSIC PREVIEW

Data Romance

WITH | DreamFace

WHEN | Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 8 p.m.

WHERE | Brixx Bar and Grill (10030 102 St.)

HOW MUCH | \$10 at primeboxoffice.com

Alex Migdal

STAFF REPORTER • @ALEXEM

Data Romance represents the fusion of two worlds: the cold, calculating beats of producer Ajay Bhattacharyya interwoven with the haunting, ethereal vocals of singer Amy Kirkpatrick.

It's a unique blend that has cemented the duo's name in the Canadian electronic music scene, especially with the release of their booming, ghostly single "The Deep." But with the current success of the pair's formula, they remain wary of being influenced by current musical fads.

"I think the trickiest thing is that we're very conscious of not seeming gimmicky, so jumping on trends right when they're happening," Bhattacharyya explains. "I think that lends itself to a slower build than a lot of other acts out there."

"I'm not trying to trash other people at all," he continues, "but I think that our music is really honest, and we're coming from a real place. We're doing what we want to sound like in the future. We're not trying to make it sound like dubstep because dubstep's cool right now, you know? I'm happy to let it build a lot slower and not let it catch on super fast because usually when stuff catches on huge really quickly, it can fade just as fast, and we don't want that."

The duo certainly hasn't been afraid of

veering away from the traditional, as shown in their dark, grim music video for their latest single. Featuring only a sparse space with three dancers, the video is a testament to the duo's desire to surpass typical musical boundaries, incorporating expressive visuals while still maintaining a strong focus on their music.

"I'm happy to let (the music) build a lot slower and not let it catch on super fast, because usually when stuff catches on huge really quickly, it can fade just as fast, and we don't want that."

AJAY BHATTACHARYYA
DATA ROMANCE

"We just wanted to have a very visceral video, and not have you try to follow the plot. You kind of just experience the music with visuals. It's almost like a live feature," Bhattacharyya says. "We got a lot of treatments from other directors that thought of this very elaborate, Hollywood-esque plot with action and drama and people jumping out of helicopters. We were really turned off by that. We wanted the music to speak for itself, and I think, in the end, it's worth it."

Although the duo has been cautious in styling their music, they've had no qualms in releasing it, launching their self-titled EP only months after producing the original soundtrack for the film *Life Cycles*. The latter album features hardly any vocals, while the EP is steeped in Kirkpatrick's soft, otherworldly voice, a jarring contrast that only seems natural for the pair.

"On my side, it's just a pairing of the two

worlds," Kirkpatrick says. "(The vocals) are the storyline. I think it makes us who we are for sure — having the vocals over the beats."

"In the EP, we structured things very differently. We tried to leave more space, and it's a little bit more centre format for songs," Bhattacharyya adds. "It builds and escalates in extreme ways. The vocals have to come first."

With each song on the four-track EP representing only a sampling of the various sounds that Data Romance has to offer, it's no surprise that the twosome are eager to release the rest of the material they've been working on, already prepping for the launch of their next EP. As Bhattacharyya notes, "It's like the EP we just put out, but on steroids," with an even more diverse sound. For Kirkpatrick, that involves taking her voice away from the whispery realm of their debut.

"I think on the last EP, it's not that I wasn't pushing myself, but I was just in a medium range of vocals, the way I tend to naturally do it," she explains. "This time it was kind of like, 'Let's try this.' I'll try yelling, I'll try whispering, kind of more zero to 100 type of vocals. Even with lyrics, playing with things that maybe I wouldn't want to say, and just yelling it out and letting it all go."

Stretching themselves creatively is an ongoing act for Data Romance, and they don't foresee any limits barring them any time soon. On the cusp of launching their next single "Spark," a song that Kirkpatrick describes as "weird and autotuned," and working on a mix tape for the end of the year, the duo seem to be fulfilling their hope of creating a type of unrestrained music that only the electronic genre can allow.

"We're able to have this sonic palette that goes so much farther beyond drum, bass and guitar," Bhattacharyya says. "It feels like an infinite world of freedom, which is scary, but it's also really liberating."



SUPPLIED: DORON GILD

From rowdy to reserved with Ra Ra Riot

MUSIC PREVIEW

Ra Ra Riot

WITH Dinosaur Bones

WHEN Thursday, Sept. 29 at 7 p.m.

WHERE Avenue Theatre
(9030 118 Ave.)

HOW MUCH \$20.25 at
primeboxoffice.com

Kevin Pinkoski

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

For a band with the word “riot” right in their name, Ra Ra Riot can’t seem to decide if they’d prefer a rowdy audience or an attentive one.

“It’s definitely hard to say exactly what kind of audience is perfect,” lead guitarist Milo Bonacci says. “You can have so many different experiences in a show based off different audiences. I mean, there are lots of ways to have a good show no matter what kind of audience you have.

“I’m not just saying this because I’m talking to a Canadian, but we’ve had some of our best show experiences in Canada,” says Bonacci, who, along with the rest of the band, has been on a performance circuit that includes North American tours, summer festivals and overseas experiences since the release of the band’s second album

The Orchard in 2010.

Of all these experiences and shows, Bonacci believes the most memorable came from a concert the band played in Nelson, BC. While at first they were skeptical of the city’s aging esthetic and small venue, the experience they had there stands out as one of their best.

“We thought, ‘This isn’t the place you have a rock show in’ ... People were sitting in the back, and a few people were even sitting on the front of the stage. We were all like, ‘Oh god, let’s just play, pack up and get out of here,’” says Bonacci with a laugh. “But it ended up being this amazing show where everybody was dancing much harder than I’ve ever seen or can remember ... They were just wild. It was one of those good surprises.”

While a more riotous show captures the multitude of talent that that makes up the six-person band, Bonacci feels that how great a show really has nothing to do with the size of the audience.

“I would rather play to a couple people who really want to be there than a couple of people who are really indifferent to be there. A show for 100 people can be just as fulfilling as a show for 5,000 people,” says Bonacci. “No matter what, we try to meet them, to talk to them ...

So it seems pretty natural when we are on stage.

“The best thing I can do is be excited about playing. Hopefully that translates to something good.”

While an audience that lives up to Ra Ra Riot’s name makes for an energetic show, the band doesn’t always need this exact audience. Bonacci recounts the band’s tour to Japan as an instance when he was pleasantly surprised.

“The Japanese audience is so polite and attentive,” he says. “No one is checking text messages or talking to their neighbours; no one is chatting ... It was a really refreshing pleasure to play there. And it’s particularly fun when they all start clapping, or laugh in unison. It’s sort of funny to go from audiences (in Canada) to audiences there.”

Bonacci points out that there’s no formula to creating the perfect show — instead, he believes that all the band can do is look forward to playing and remember how lucky they are. Whether you’re in a rebellious mood or feeling proper, Ra Ra Riot promises to suit the audience’s energy perfectly.

“It’s always a pleasure to play live, and such a release,” Bonacci says. “I think we all, no matter what, look forward to it. We are fortunate just to have people that want to listen to us, and that’s enough for us.”



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ALBUM REVIEW



Dan Mangan *Oh Fortune*

Arts & Crafts

danmanganmusic.com

Stephen Cook

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

The apocalypse is coming. We’ve all seen the signs: birds falling from the sky, the rise of the American Tea Party and, of course, Dan Mangan. Even the Mayans have a prediction somewhere about this angel playing an acoustic guitar with a voice that could soothe the all-mighty Quetzalcoatl.

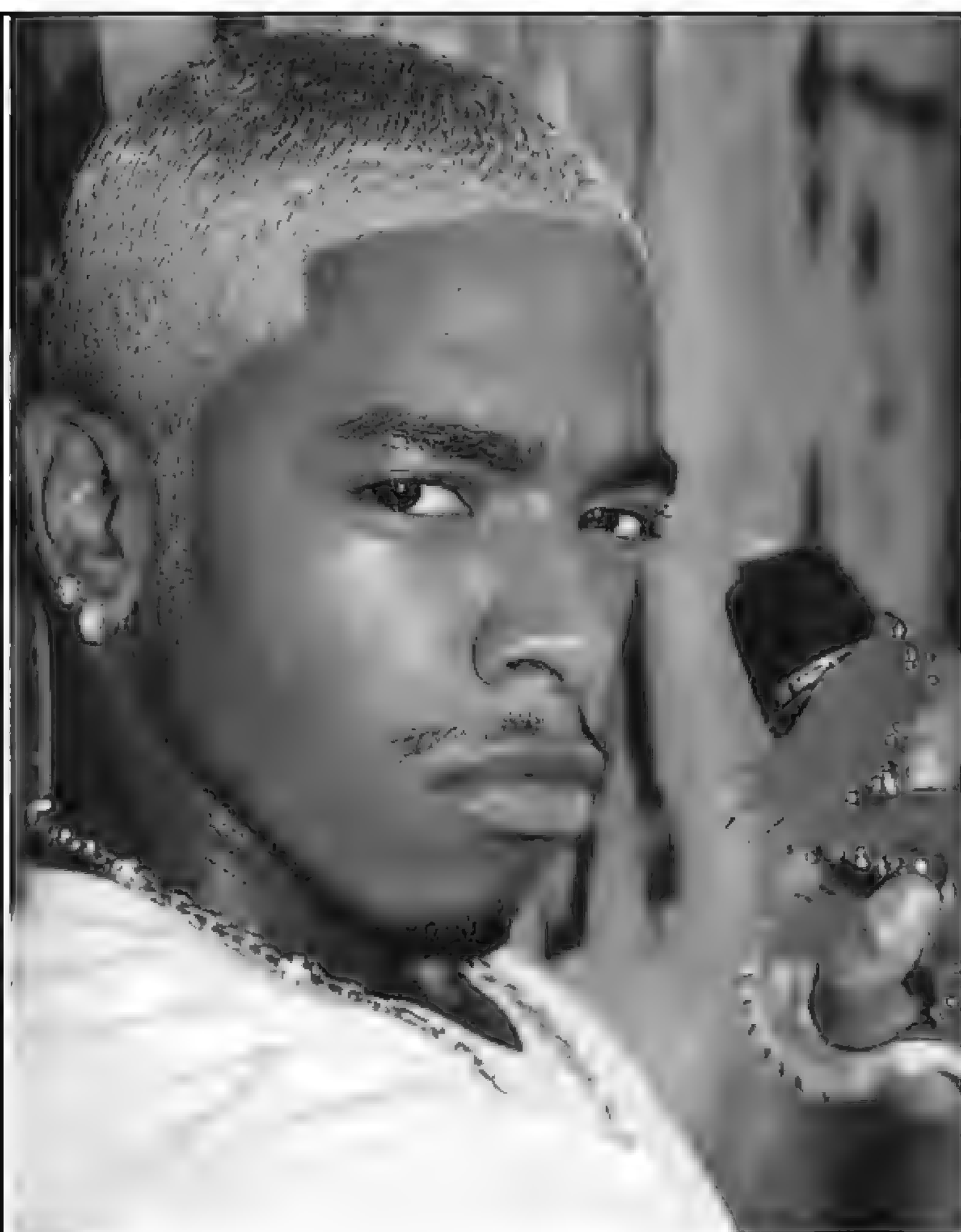
Seriously though, Dan Mangan is good stuff. The Vancouver-born

folk singer’s latest album, *Oh Fortune*, maintains the same distinct sound that sets him atop the shoulders of his genre-peers. While there’s something to be said about a market absolutely brimming with folksy singer-songwriters who straddle the line between the inspiring and melancholy, Mangan separates himself with lyrics that are all at once universal, baffling

and, most importantly, resonant.

You’ve got your downer pieces like “How Darwinian” or “Regarding Death and Dying.” You’ve got your more upbeat pieces like “Rows of Houses” or “Post-War Blues.” Though to put them into such base categories is to demean their power as music. Dan Mangan is great because his stuff stays with you. It haunts you. And even if you’re not humming one of his catchier tunes, even if you’re not humming any particular tune at all, you will remember how his music makes you feel. Or, in this case, how *Oh Fortune* makes you feel.

So yes, *Oh Fortune* is more of the same from Mangan. It may leave you with much the same feeling his previous work once did, but what a powerful feeling that can be.



She had dumps like
a truck, truck, truck
Thighs like what,
what what
All night long
Let me see that
thong
Baby, that thong
th-thong thong
thong"

-SISQO, "THONG SONG" (2000)

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Harrowing and hopeful stories from an author's journey to Africa

AUTHOR PREVIEW

Gary Geddes, *Drink the Bitter Root*

WHEN Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 2 p.m.

WHERE HC 4-29

HOW MUCH Free event

Garrett Rosser

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Personal, emotional and poignant, Gary Geddes' *Drink the Bitter Root* brings to light the overlooked conflicts of the people living in Sub-Saharan Africa, struggling to live and heal in a part of the world torn by neglect, greed and corruption.

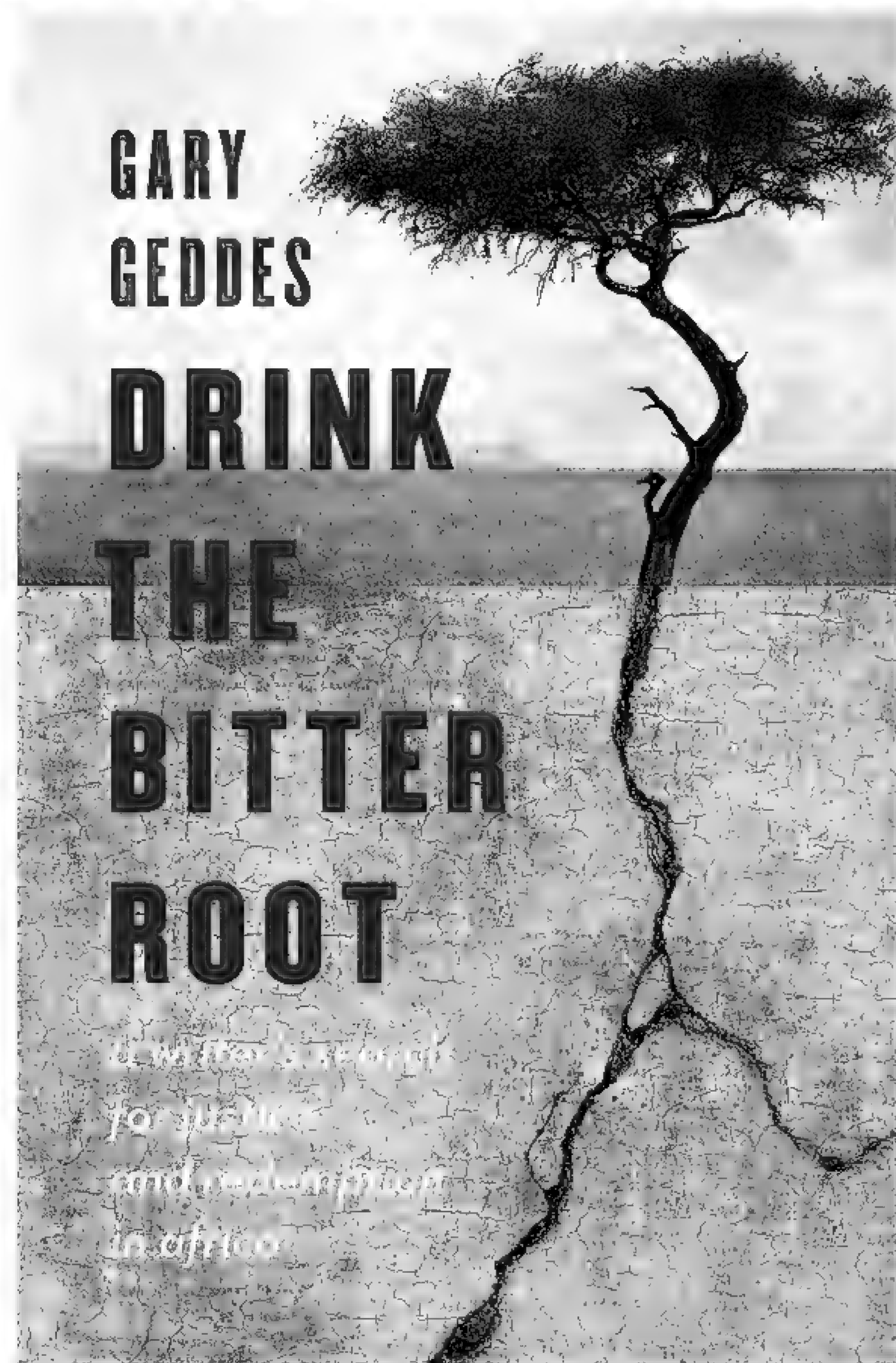
Geddes, an accomplished author and recipient of the British Columbia Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence, set out at age 68 to discover the Lake Victoria region of Africa, a place known for its history of violence and genocide, but shrouded in mystery to most of the Western world. He will be appearing at the University of Alberta on Oct. 4 to discuss the stories he uncovered during his travels.

"Curiosity was not enough to take me to Africa, to overcome my fears," Geddes recalls. "I needed to be morally engaged in what is happening there. Eventually, I could not ignore it any longer. The Somalia Affair tipped the scales — when Canadian soldiers tortured and murdered Shidane Arone during their time there — but that is another story I leave for readers of the book."

The stories Geddes' encountered reveal the spirit of hope and reconciliation at the heart of even the most traumatized victims of the conflict between the corrupt forces of the government and rebel militias.

"There is so much dignity and grace amongst those trauma victims I interviewed," Geddes says. "Nancy, a woman I talked to in Northern Uganda, had her nose, ears and lips cut off by the Lord's Resistance Army under the leadership of the perverse Joseph Kony. Yet she was able to counsel forgiveness and restoration because most of her mutilators were abducted children, forced to kill."

The heartbreak Geddes uncovered is framed by the disparity of the corrupt government and militia leaders, supported by greedy and unscrupulous industries that strip these countries



of their abundant natural resources without care for the local population.

"Fighting is not the problem in Africa — it's greed," Geddes explains. "Home-grown militias and foreign interference in an unregulated mining industry are the root of most of the violence," he explains.

"We tend to view Africa as a lost cause, a place of great chaos and turbulence, where war and famine are constant. But this is not the case; it's a view the First World wants to perpetrate."

"We need to learn to listen to what ordinary Africans — Rwandans, Ugandans, Ethiopians — feel they need," Geddes remarks, recalling his experiences witnessing the ineffective bureaucracy of large NGOs. "Mega-projects funded by the West don't help most Africans. Some money goes to buy influence among corrupt politicians, but most of it goes back to the donor companies, who don't hire African engineers or

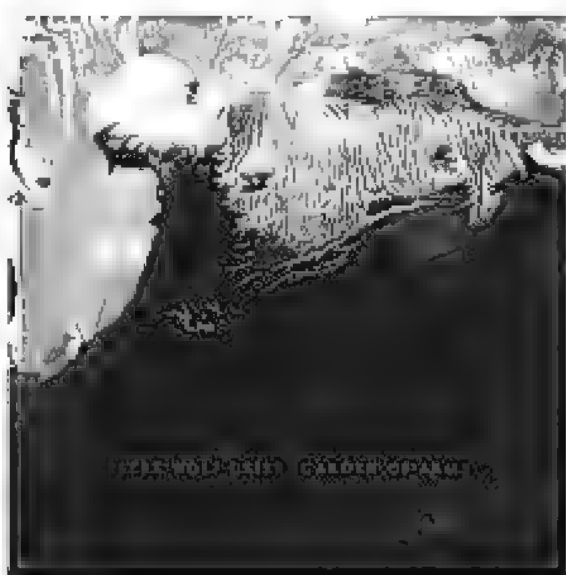
labourers or use African materials."

Co-operation and communication with local people, Geddes says, is the most effective means of assistance.

"Smaller NGOs are more likely to hire locals, listen carefully to what is needed in specific areas, and not burn up a lot of money through advertising and administration."

Geddes travelled through the neglected streets of Gulu in Uganda, through the sombre resting place in Rwanda of 800,000 victims of an atrocious genocide, and through Ethiopia and Somalia, sharing stories with child soldiers, refugee community leaders and rape victims inflicted with HIV. *Drink the Bitter Root* is his search through a land paradoxically so rich in culture and resources yet rife with violence and despair, or as one Congolese man summed up to Geddes: "We live and die in rags, but are buried in the richest soil in Africa."

ALBUM REVIEW



Peter Wolf Crier *Garden of Arms*

Jagjaguwar
peterwolfcrier.com

Peggy Jankovic

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER • @PEGGHETTI

While ambition is certainly an admirable trait, it's too easy for musicians to stifle their intentions with poorly-executed experimentation — an unfortunate fate that ruins Peter Wolf Crier's sophomore effort, *Garden of Arms*. Written after performing an impressive series of 100 live shows in six months, the duo now showcase a newfound confidence and sense of intense dynamics, albeit hampered by uninspired filler and misguided arrangements.

Immediately, the textured "Right Away" demands the listener's full

attention with its bold percussion and urgency expressed through vocalist Peter Pisano's spirited howl. Next comes "Beach," undoubtedly the album's catchiest track. Even from the first listen, it's hard not to start singing along with the song's repeated mantra, "You know I've known wrong." Rain sticks also provide an intriguing base to the track with an almost icy sound, and layered electric guitar licks and Pisano's looped vocals make it a true standout.

But despite the strength of its first

two tracks, the rest of the album is a collection of generic and forgettable songs that fail to maintain a sense of cohesive storytelling. When "Wheel" ends the album with swirling, whale-like vocals over fuzzy percussion, it seems like a feeble finish. It's such a departure from the rest of *Garden of Arms* that it does little to provide a satisfying sense of conclusion.

The duo's vision still deserves some recognition. The album's thunderous percussion is unique and inventive, though it does fall flat at times, failing to complement the tracks that make use of it. In particular, the frantic snare of "Cut a Hand" seems distracting, and undermines the combination of delicate guitar and Pisano's soft croon.

While a decent listen altogether, *Garden of Arms* lacks a grander, refined vision. Luckily, this is only a small step in Peter Wolf Crier's evolution. Hopefully there's something better to come.

Abduction takes Lautner's career hopes hostage

FILM REVIEW

Abduction

WRITTEN BY Shawn Christensen

DIRECTED BY John Singleton

STARRING Taylor Lautner, Lily Collins and Alfred Molina

Lena BouFakhreddine

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Abduction's opening sequence is an unfortunate indication of things to come: overused stereotypes, tired acting and a lack of real action, despite numerous opportunities for edge-of-your-seat excitement. With a cast of virtual unknowns mixed with big-name stars, this movie leaves everything to be desired.

The film begins with all the stereotypical activities any overbearing parent fears: a large group of spoiled, car-surfing, fake I.D.-selling, beer pong-playing teenagers dancing at a pool party while parents are away on vacation. Taylor Lautner is one of them: fresh off the success of the *Twilight* series, he plays Nathan Price, a seemingly average teenage boy who's used to the typical comforts of his high school life. To his surprise, he learns through a school assignment that he's actually adopted — but not in the conventional sense.

In the midst of his discovery, he also finds his photo on a missing persons website. Following the murder of his adoptive parents by a group of burly men in suits, Nathan begins to unravel the story of who he really is. It isn't long before he's on the run with his neighbour and love interest Karen (Lily Collins), with CIA operatives and members of a rogue Black Ops force hot on his tail.

Unfortunately, Lautner remains trapped in the inevitable situation that befalls many young Hollywood stars who begin their careers making large blockbusters. With his piercing brown eyes, the heartthrob's smouldering stare fails to have the same impact as his famous werewolf role in the *Twilight* movies. While his performance is



melodramatic and artificial, Lautner is still just a young actor — he has time to take a few acting classes and recover from this devastating attempt at a breakthrough.

The same excuse can't be used for a veteran actress like Sigourney Weaver, playing Nathan's therapist Dr. Bennett. With more than 30 years of acting experience and 60 films under her belt, her sloppy, banal performance falls far short of the classic Hollywood icon she's supposed to be. Perhaps the producers were hoping that Weaver's acting chops might save the pathetic storyline, but ultimately, nothing can save this film from itself.

Scenes with more fire, explosions and intense car chases — the staples of any action

movie — might also have rescued *Abduction* from boredom. But while there are plenty of opportunities to showcase explosions and gun fights, the movie is totally devoid of any action sequences.

Further complicating things, clumsy transitions only serve to weaken the film's already feeble storyline. The story confusingly jumps from a scene where Nathan and his classmates endure a lecture from a teacher, changing in the blink of an eye to Karen's bedroom, where she's tearing down a picture of her and her ex-boyfriend. Although the film takes the first 30 minutes to build its characters' stories, this is ultimately a waste, with most of the background information proving to be

totally unnecessary.

While most action movies contain some sort of love story, *Abduction* also fails to provide the classic "butterflies in your stomach." Steamy makeout sessions always sell, but they seem to lose credibility when the hero kissing the girl has just witnessed his parents' execution.

The only authenticity in the entire film is the awkward teenage sexual tension between Lautner and his co-star Collins, whose chemistry does seem a bit forced, but provides some realism to the confusion of young love. But aside from this tiny speck of truth, *Abduction* is unimpressive in every way — a flop big enough to potentially start the downfall of the young Lautner.

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50/50 skillfully balances fear and farce in the face of cancer

FILM REVIEW

50/50

WHEN | Opens Friday, Sept. 30
WRITTEN BY | Will Reiser
DIRECTED BY | Jonathan Levine
STARRING | Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Seth Rogen and Anna Kendrick

Andrew Jeffrey
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

There's a fine line that films dealing with tragic issues continuously walk — it's a balancing act between staying grounded and real, while avoiding the sappy and maudlin. Comedies with difficult subject matter like *50/50* have to be especially careful about looking insensitive or offensive while they make jokes in the face of tragedy.

Based on the experiences of writer Will Reiser after his own cancer diagnosis, *50/50* navigates tricky territory to be both hilarious and heartbreaking. Joseph Gordon-Levitt gives an impressive performance as Adam, a normally cautious and healthy man who is suddenly diagnosed with a rare form of spinal cancer, giving him a 50 per cent chance of survival. The film explores Adam's struggles through various stages of coping with his disease. Along for the ride is his best friend Kyle (Seth Rogen), who is just as unprepared for Adam's diagnosis.

Because the film is grounded in Reiser's own experiences, *50/50*'s story feels genuine, never forced or overly

melodramatic. The shifts in tone between comedy and drama can sometimes feel a little odd — after all, Seth Rogen's usual brand of dick jokes doesn't necessarily blend perfectly with the real grief this film shows — but the grounded script consistently helps the story move naturally, with comedy funny enough to be forgiven for distracting from the movie's sadder moments.

The balance is a good thing, since *50/50* would be hopelessly lost without it. It's difficult to find something like cancer funny, and audiences don't necessarily appreciate attempts to make light of it. Rogen's previous work in *Funny People* is a perfect example: a comedy about a terminal health condition that only managed mixed reviews and mediocre box office results. However, he and Levitt carry both the serious and comedic load of the film admirably, drawing out laughs despite the dark subject matter. This duality is present throughout the movie: in one scene, Levitt, high as a kite, smirks and laughs his way through hospital corridors past crying families and ill patients.

Not a single cast member's talents go to waste either, as the film looks at the lives of the people around Adam and their difficulties dealing with his diagnosis. While an inexperienced therapist and unsure girlfriend are in over their heads as they try to help Adam, his best friend struggles to make him happy in what could be his final months, and his mother becomes desperate to establish her role as a caretaker for her son.

It's the way *50/50* explores a whole range of issues surrounding Adam's cancer that makes it such a poignant and meaningful film. Its diversity is striking, embodying a tearjerker one moment and a laugh-out-loud comedy the next. In a movie about confronting mortality, that's no small feat.

ALBUM REVIEW



Kidstreet *Fuh Yeah* Nettwerk Music Group

Ian Phillipchuk
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

With a name inspired by a classic kids show, Kidstreet proves they have what it takes to jam with all the adults in their debut, *Fuh Yeah*. Although it's the band's first effort, *Fuh Yeah* spins like an offering from a veteran on the top of their game. The synth-pop genre is jam-packed with tired clichés, but *Fuh Yeah* is a distinct first offering from a band worth watching.

You've probably already heard something from the album, as the piano and synth composition "Song" has been featured on Ford's most recent advertising blitz — but don't hold that against Kidstreet. Played in full, it's a lilting and flowy arrangement of melodies, evoking the feeling of quiet late-night drives — a surprising highlight of the album. Alternating between fast and

slow, "Song" is a precursor to the broad scope of the rest of the album, from the blistering "Penny Candy" to the introspective and ethereal "Nineteen Ninety Three."

Siblings Karl, Cliff and Edna Snyder play drums, synth, bass and vocals in a mix that occasionally spans multiple genres, but mostly keeps to the electronic side of synth-pop. *Fuh Yeah* feels enough like other electronica offerings that it provides a sense of comfort and familiarity, while keeping everything upbeat, positive and polished.

Kidstreet have created an extremely impressive debut album, and judging by the variety, speed and skill of *Fuh Yeah*, it's clear they are going to be around for a while. Buy in to the dance party now and beat the rush.

fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Julianne Damer**



Heather Scheltz
ARTS III

GATEWAY: Describe what you're wearing.
HEATHER: I'm wearing a blanket skirt, a knit wool sweater from Urban Outfitters, a pair of brown boots and a pair of brown patterned tights.
GATEWAY: What's your favourite thing you have on?
HEATHER: My skirt, because I've never seen anything like it before. When I saw it, I had to buy it. It's from Gravity Pope.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.

Planting the dark seeds of *Doubt* in the theatre

Studio Theatre’s production of John Patrick Shanley’s enigmatic script will leave audiences furiously deliberating and debating



AMIRALI SHARIFI

THEATRE REVIEW

Doubt, a Parable

WHEN | Runs until Saturday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m.,
matinée show Thursday, Sept. 29 at 12:30 p.m.

WHERE | Timms Centre for the Arts
(87 Ave. and 112 St.)

WRITTEN BY | John Patrick Shanley

DIRECTED BY | Leigh Rivenbark

STARRING | Doug Mertz and Valerie Planche

HOW MUCH | \$10 at the Timms box office

Stephen Cook

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Doubt’s opening scene begins with a deep bell chime, resounding across the 10-foot walls that surround the school courtyard. The elderly Sister Aloysius peers outside the window, set apart and suspicious of all that goes on in the outside world. The set turns and Father Flynn, in his sacred vestments, gives a rousing speech about the bonding power of doubt, solidifying his “modern” connection to the community.

Within the first five minutes of *Doubt*, all the pieces are set in motion for a play that tackles uncertainty, morality, racism, sexuality, modernity, theology and a whole host of other things — issues more easily tackled in a philosophy paper than a 550-word theatre review.

Doubt, A Parable is just that: a moral message. Behind the complex plot is a lesson, and not necessarily a pretty one, which further confounds its explanation. The plot is the pitted battle between two opposing forces: the staunchly old-school Sister Aloysius and the newcomer Father Flynn. Caught in the cross-fire is the shy, naïve Sister James, who, like the audience, is never quite sure whose side she’s

on. At the centre of it all is the accusation of the possibility of an indecent relationship between Father Flynn and the first black child at their Catholic school during the tumultuous ‘60s. And shifting amid this landscape of personalities is a pervading ambivalence about the foundations of the allegations, the lack of evidence that never allows for a final conclusion.

The difficulty of performing *Doubt* lies in walking the thin line of uncertainty laid out by writer John Patrick Shanley. Reading the facts — or lack thereof — on paper is one thing. Seeing them come alive onstage is another. This is where all productions of the play seem to run into trouble: in the play’s film adaptation, it’s been argued that Meryl Streep’s Sister Aloysius was too much of a tyrant. Now, with the Studio Theatre production, it may be that Doug Mertz’s Father Flynn is a little too shifty. Every time he looks towards the audience, his eyes seem to dart back and forth. His moods are always a little too calculated, too quick to change, perhaps liable to swing the audience’s sympathies too far in one direction.

See *Doubt* with a friend and you may find yourself in an argument over Father Flynn’s innocence. The play is as much about the stark contrast of its two leading personalities as it is about the audience’s reaction to them. Your beliefs, your own experiences and even your mood are all brought to the table to mull over the play’s central problem. And what’s worse — add in a little more mulling and you’ll realize that it’s all for naught; beyond your own feelings there are no facts. You may be coaxed into certainty, but certainty is a poor stand-in for truth.

The guiding principle of *Doubt* is exactly that: doubt. It’s an uncomfortable principle, but one that lets the theatregoer examine both their own reaction to the plot and very possibly their own predetermined beliefs and values. And the ability to get under the audience’s skin is a hallmark of great drama.

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Bears Weekend Schedule

FOOTBALL



Sunday, Oct. 2
@ Calgary
1 p.m.

SOCCER



Saturday and Sunday,
Oct. 1-2
vs. Saskatchewan
Foote Field - 2:15 p.m.

Pandas Weekend Schedule

SOCCER



Saturday and Sunday,
Oct. 1-2
vs. Saskatchewan
Foote Field - 12 p.m.

RUGBY



Sunday, Oct. 2
@ Lethbridge
1 p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY



Saturday and Sunday,
Oct. 1-2
vs. Calgary
Foote Field - 1 p.m.

HOCKEY



Saturday, Oct. 1
vs. NAIT (non-conference)
Clare Drake Arena - 7 p.m.



FILE PHOTO: MATT HIRJI



FILE PHOTO: MATT HIRJI

Pandas still the Canada West team to beat

Soccer squad faces first loss of the season to Trinity Western Spartans, putting them at 5-1 so far

SOCCER PREVIEW

Pandas vs. Huskies

Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 1-2
Foote Field, 12 p.m.

Andrew Jeffery
SPORTS STAFF

Despite a slight misstep this past weekend with a loss against Trinity Western University, the Pandas soccer team have begun their season in an impressive fashion, with five wins over six games, and a chance to maintain their top ranking in Canada West when they host Saskatchewan this weekend.

The Pandas started the year with a four-game winning streak to stake their claim as the team to beat in Canada West. The only bump in the road came this past Saturday with a 1-0 loss to TWU. A swift recovery in the next day's game against UBC led to a 2-0 victory over the T-Birds. Much of this is due to a solid roster of new talent that has taken over for departed starters Christian Le and Keshia Wallin.

"The players we brought in to

fill those positions, they're coming along and they're really contributing," head coach Liz Jepsen said. "It brings a new flavour. I think realistically speaking, we should be better than last year because we have more players who are experienced on the field in those really cutthroat positions."

However, the groundwork for their current success was laid years ago. An example was set for the current team by the fourth and fifth year starters in past years about the quality of play expected at the U of A. The team as a whole has evolved from there to become a well-rounded squad whose age ranges from fourth to first years, but who are all committed to excellence and what it takes to achieve it.

"When you look back to my first years of coaching, when you look to the crew that came in there, they really set the foundation for where we're at now," Jepsen explained. "I think the girls that are here now are really taking advantage of that foundation. They just have really committed to saying 'We want to be number one' ... as opposed to just showing up on the day and wanting to

compete. They're doing a ton of groundwork."

"Every second Wednesday in the summer, we met at 6:30 a.m. to do some really hard track training. How many teams did that? I don't know if that's a winning factor, but I can sure tell you that makes champions out of these girls," Jepsen added.

The Pandas are far from reaching championship status yet, with more than half the season still to go. One familiar obstacle to that goal comes this weekend in two games at home against the University of Saskatchewan. The Huskies are a strong team in Canada West and Jepsen has already seen their skill several times as the Huskies' travel partner this season.

"What really struck me was that they're very organized, a very well connected team. I was impressed by how their back line really work together and have everything run quite seamlessly," Jepsen said.

Saskatchewan also features the Canada West point leader from last year, Elizabeth Hudon, and the current point leader, Daniela Fuenzalida, a member of the Chilean National team in the

2008 FIFA U20 World Cup. These Huskies pose a formidable threat, but the Pandas can respond with their triple threat of strikers in Heather Lund, Amanda Black and Kayla Michaels leading a team that's just as capable of creating goal-scoring chances and are interchangeable on the attack. Most of all, through this weekend and the rest of the season, Jepsen sees certain important principles, more than skill alone, carrying the team.

"I think everybody recognizes that to be part of the U of A culture is a very special thing and to be part of the Pandas soccer team means that you're a very talented player. But talent isn't enough. It's hard work, determination, deliberate practice, and I think that's where we're at right now, is that we've identified our goals, we've trained very specifically to them, and we do the work."

"I think it's that bigger picture — it's seeing the greatness around you, wanting to be part of that greatness, committing to being part of that greatness, training with deliberance to get there and then believing that the rest will fall in place."



GOALS



Heather Lund - U of A
• Five goals in six games



Tessa Miller - U of C
• Four goals in five games

WEEK 3 CANADA WEST TOP SOCCER PERFORMERS

ASSISTS



Jenna Di Nunzio - TWU
• Four assists in five games



Kayla Michaels - U of A
• Four assists in six games

SAVES



Taura Willoughby - U of L
• 34 saves in five games



Marissa Wilford - U of S
• 33 saves in six games

PANDAS SCOREBOARD

vs. Trinity Western University - Sept. 24



1



0

vs. University of British Columbia - Sept. 25



2



0



FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

Pandas claim spot in rugby playoffs after weekend wins

RUGBY PREVIEW

Pandas vs. Horns

Sunday, Oct. 2
Lethbridge, 1 p.m.

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

The Pandas rugby team may be confident at placing well in Canada West after winning their only two games of the season last weekend, but they now have to take on the five-time conference champion Lethbridge Pronghorns in order to continue their winning streak.

The Pandas smashed two west coast teams into the ground, with huge double digit wins over both the Thunderbirds and the Vikes this past weekend. On Sept. 23 the Pandas beat UVic 36-6. Two days later, they came out with an even more impressive 60-5 win against UBC.

"I was really pleased with how we played this weekend, especially against UBC in our second game on Sunday. The scoreline and number of tries definitely exceeded my expectations. These two wins confirm our spot at Canada West — next weekend will confirm our ranking," said head coach Matt Parrish.

The wins are not unusual for the

rugby crew, who placed second in Canada West last season, but Parrish knew going into the weekend that his team would have to put up a fight against the two BC squads. That's why they put in such rigorous training, even holding a training camp at the Edmonton Garrison army base two weekends ago.

"We came out of that having covered stuff that we normally really wouldn't have got to until at least the end of this week or the start of next," Parrish said before the weekend's wins. "You want to try and cover everything before the first game. But we seem to have moved quite quickly where we're actually being able to really sort of refine some things rather than just introduce them. That's a testament to a lot of the girls coming up."

Players who really earned their rugby stripes in the games against UBC and UVic were fullback Karlee Carbert and winger Hayley Sandboe, each scoring four tries. Centre Chelsie Guthrie and scrum half Fran Grabinsky each scored two, while flanker Teanna Chase tacked up one try and five converts. Winger Alanna Fittes scored one try and one convert.

Grabinsky was named player of the game against UVic and Fittes was named against UBC. It's something that bodes well for the Pandas, as the pair weren't go-to players a

season ago.

"Both were not regular starters last year so it was great to see them perform so well this weekend," Parrish said of the two.

This week's training will have to be even more intense, as the Pandas will take on Lethbridge on the Pronghorns' home turf Sunday. Although the Pandas placed second in the 2010/11 Canada West season with a 3-1-0 record, they fell behind the unbeatable Lethbridge, who placed fourth in CIS playoffs last season, with one loss.

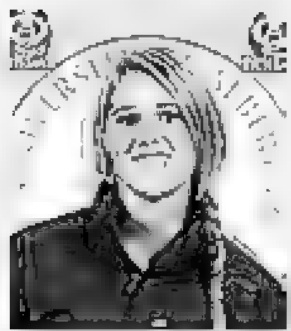
The Lethbridge squad has won the past five Canada West titles, stealing the show in 2006 from the Pandas, who had won seven prior Canada West titles. This season, the Pronghorns are coming off a two-game winning streak against both UVic and UBC over the weekend.

Parrish said the goal for the upcoming Lethbridge game is really to keep improving on their performance and focusing on what they have to do, rather than what the Pronghorns have accomplished.

"You can control what you do. You can't control what the opposition does," Parrish said. "If you play to your best then the result will take care of itself. It's a bit of a cliché, but it's true."

The team is certainly taking the advice to heart judging by wins.

Player Spotlights



Teanna Chase
Flanker
Sherwood Park, AB

- Named Salisbury CHS Rugby Athlete of the Year 2006-07, 2007-08
- 15 points this season (one try and 5 converts)



Fran Grabinsky
Scrum Half
Edmonton, AB

- Awarded Jimmie Condon Athletic Scholarship in 2009 and South Side Athletic Club Scholarship in 2008
- 10 points this season (two tries)



Hayley Sandboe
Winger
La Glace, AB

- Hudson's Athlete of the Week last week
- 20 points this season (four tries)

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Jonathan M. Curtis, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science and Scientific Director, Lipid Chemistry Group, Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences

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HOSSEIN MORTAZAVI

Foot Bears fight to climb standings

SOCCER PREVIEW

Bears vs. Huskies

Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 1 - 2
Foote Field, 2:15 p.m.

Marina Saporito
SPORTS WRITER

It's going to be a tough weekend for the Golden Bears soccer team as they host the Saskatchewan Huskies, the number two team in Canada West.

The Bears need to do some catching up to have a fighting chance in the Canada West standings, as they are currently fourth. They lost their game against Trinity Western last Saturday 1-0 and tied UBC 3-3.

The Huskies are tied with UVic and Trinity Western for the number two spot in Canada West, both with a 3-2-1 season so far, while the Bears sit in fifth place with two wins, two losses and two ties. However, the Bears are first in scoring chances in Canada West, already having taken 99 shots in just six games.

Head Coach Len Vickery said he hopes that the team will begin to

capitalize on their chances as the competition in Canada West and in CIS heats up.

"The statistics will show that we've had more shots than anybody else. This weekend we need to start scoring a few more goals. (We're) particularly looking at a number of our strikers to start scoring a few more goals."

Some of the players the Bears will be leaning on to find the back of the net this weekend against Saskatchewan are Marcus Johnstone, Brett Colvin, Cam Schmidt and Bears leading goal-scorer, Milan Timotjevic.

Luckily for the Bears, striker Brett Colvin is back in action after suffering a broken bone in his ankle last season. Colvin played this past weekend against UBC and Trinity Western and netted one of the goals against the T-Birds, resulting in a 3-3 tie.

Colvin's 23 career goals now have him tied with David Phillips for the Bears all-time scoring record. Vickery said that the more Colvin plays, the better he gets. But even though the Bears will have a positive addition on the offensive front, they will be without star midfielder, C.J.

Gilroy, who is out with a sprained ankle likely until their match against the U of C Dinos on Oct. 15.

Leading the way for the Huskies in this weekend's two games against the Bears will be striker Jerson Barandica-Hamilton, who represented Canada at the Summer Universiade in China this past summer.

Barandica-Hamilton is the conference's lead scorer, having netted six goals this season, and also leads in assists with four. But Vickery remains confident in his defense's strong ability to take on Saskatchewan, as the Bears have only allowed in six goals over the course of six games.

"It's an important weekend. It could go a long way to determining where the various teams finish at the end of the season. We kept in contact with the top two or three teams. This weekend is a big test for us. We need to get a bit better," Vickery said, adding that the team has all the necessary tools to play a strong weekend.

"Saskatchewan appears in the national rankings, they have more of a senior squad. We've got a little bit of work to do to catch up."

sports shorts

COMPILED BY **Rebecca Medel**

BEARS DOMINATE AT THE BRICK

A pre-season tourney proved to be a good warmup for the Golden Bears hockey team this past weekend.

The Bears lost 4-3 in overtime against the University of Saskatchewan on Sept. 23. The Bears weren't able to net any in the shoot-out but centre Greg Gardner had two goals during the match and defenceman Jesse Craig had one.

The next night saw rightwing Johnny Lazo net two, and forward Jesse Szaszkievick and centre Kruise Reddick each with one for a 4-2 win over the Mount Royal Cougars, a team who will be official CIS members next season.

The next action for the Bears will be in the conference opener when they host Regina, Oct. 7 - 8.

LACROSSE CLUB LOOKING TO GET LUCKY
Heard of the U of A Field Lacrosse

Club? They do exist and are hosting a tournament this weekend all day Saturday and Sunday.

Colin Waugh, one of the team's organizers, is hoping that this tourney will lay the foundation for a western Canadian league to form.

It's a mixed tournament so non-university teams will be there too: the Vimy Ridge Lacrosse Program, St. FX Lacrosse Program, Red Deer Field Lacrosse and Edmonton Masters Field Lacrosse.

Waugh said he hopes this tournament will be a jumping off point for other western universities to start competing in a localized league next fall.

"Essentially it's becoming a field of dreams scenario. Build a team, build a tournament and lay the foundation for something to grow," Waugh said.

The weekend is free, so spectators can come cheer on the club at Lister Field.

FIVE OUT OF FIVE FOR PANDAS V-BALL

The Pandas volleyball team have played five preseason games, the

latest occurring last weekend in Regina and Manitoba, and have won them all, by a score of three points in each game.

The Bears have not been so lucky with a 0-3 preseason tally. Conference games begin for both squads Nov. 4-5 when they host Thompson Rivers.

PUCK TIME GETTING CLOSER FOR PANDAS

The Pandas hockey team will play two more preseason games on Friday and Saturday before things officially get underway for them in the Canada West conference in two weeks in Manitoba.

The games against Mount Royal will be just what the Pandas need to keep in shape as they will be this year's hosts of the CIS Women's Hockey National Championship in March. The MRU Cougars are ACAC gold-medalists from last season and will be a good addition to CIS when both men and women teams join in 2012-13.

Mount Royal hosts the Pandas Sept. 30, and Oct. 1 the Pandas return the favour. Both games will be at 7 p.m.

Gridiron Bears fall to Rams in fourth loss of season

FOOTBALL RECAP

Bears vs. Rams

Saturday, Sept. 24
Foote Field

Max Lutz
SPORTS WRITER

The Golden Bears football team was hoping to earn their first win of the season last weekend, but came up short thanks to another lacklustre offensive performance in a 38-14 loss to the Regina Rams at Foote Field.

The Bears showed promising signs of offensive improvement heading into the matchup with the Rams, after scoring 22 points in the fourth quarter back on Sept. 17 in a 40-30 loss to UBC.

But the Green and Gold were unable to carry that momentum forward this past weekend, falling to a Rams team that used fourth-string quarterback Zach Oleynik, who threw for four touchdowns.

Alberta's offence couldn't counter Regina's newfound QB with Oleynik — who played slot-back for Regina until injuries decimated the Rams quarterbacks this season — making his first Canada West start. The Bears fell short of 300 yards of offence, but despite the lack of production, head coach Jeff Stead attributed a lack of focus as a major reason for the loss.

"It was one of those games where you come in prepared to play and guys let external things deviate their focus from the task at hand," explained Stead. "We got caught up worrying about officials, worrying about what the other team is saying to us and just little things like that."

After heading into the half trailing 21-7, the Bears had chances to get back in the game early in the third quarter, when Brad Quartel scored a touchdown less than two minutes into the second half to make the game 21-14.

But Alberta was unable to execute when they needed to, eventually being outscored 17-7 in the second half by a Rams team that

put up 543 yards of total offence.

The loss marked the Bears fourth of the year in as many games, leaving Stead searching for answers to his team's inability to find the win column.

One problem that has stood out for Alberta this season has been turning over the ball at inopportune times. That was again the case Saturday for the Bears, after Regina scored 14 points off of four Alberta turnovers.

"We are 0-4, we can't change that, and the guys that it's unfortunate for are the fifth-year guys."

JEFF STEAD
HEAD COACH, GOLDEN BEARS FOOTBALL

Even though the Bears now sit at 0-4, Stead is happy with several veterans who have been proving their value to the team during these trying times, singling out wide receiver Laine Rogers, linebacker Duncan Morris, and defensive back Randon Ralph as players who have stepped up and been an encouragement for some of their younger teammates.

"We are 0-4. We can't change that, and the guys that it's unfortunate for are the fifth-year guys, but those guys haven't sulked or hung their heads. They're out there competing everyday and they're going to make this program better just with their leadership," Stead said.

Veteran leadership will be key next weekend, as the Bears will need a solid team effort when they travel to Calgary to attempt to knock off the conference's lone undefeated team and the defending Canada West champion the Calgary Dinos — an opportunity Stead is excited for.

"Obviously they're our provincial rivals and were expecting a physical game, and we're expecting to go out there and compete and win the game," Stead said.

The Bears and Dinos kick off at 1 p.m. on Sunday in Calgary at McMahon Stadium.



MOVE IT Running back KK Sonuga pushes past the Rams to gain some yards Sept. 24. **HOSSEIN MORTAZAVI**

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Field hockey team prepares to take on Dinos

FIELD HOCKEY PREVIEW

Pandas vs. Calgary

Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 1-2
Foote Field, both games 1 p.m.

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

In field hockey, a sport in which all four of the Canada West teams are so evenly matched, every game counts, and the Pandas are feeling the pressure now more than ever.

The Green and Gold are coming off of a win-loss weekend in Victoria and are looking to take two back-to-back wins this weekend, when they play Calgary at home to ensure a spot at CIS Nationals in Calgary. The University of British Columbia leads the conference standings with nine points, while the University of Calgary Dinos and the U of A are tied with six points each. The University of Victoria brings up the bottom spot with three points.

But Calgary doesn't have to worry about their standing — their spot in nationals is secure as hosts of the CIS championship in November. But Pandas head coach Stefanie Sloboda knows that the Dinos will still be putting up a fight this weekend, since the two Alberta teams have been rivals for over 20 years. And because the results of this weekend will decide who places second in Canada West, it will be incentive enough for both teams to bring their game.

"Calgary has a berth at the nationals, so the points won't matter for them for getting to the national championship. But I'm sure they



QUITE A DIVE The Pandas have a tough match this weekend to determine top Canada West standings. FILE PHOTO: PAUL SWANSON

matter to them in their program," Sloboda said. "We've got an opportunity to sweep this weekend and have 12 points and be sitting really well, which would give us a chance

at nationals ... I think us qualifying for nationals is a very high expectation. The confidence is there, the girls believe it now. So we win these next two games and we're sitting

good, but we're not out of hot water yet," said Sloboda.

According to her, being ruthless in games mean diving for the ball and doing whatever it takes to score

by taking every chance that comes along. She applauded defenseman Julianna Cormier for sacrificing to make tackles and get the ball out. She also pointed to goalkeeper Tory Spencer as a standout player in blocking shots and holding the team together. With a 1-0 win over UVic Sept. 24 and a 1-0 loss to them the next night, consistently keeping shots away from the net will make or break the Pandas' chance to go to nationals.

"This weekend, to put a result on the scoreboard will be a battle in itself. It's going to come down to some tactics, but it's also going to come down to who's going to be more ruthless and who's going to battle harder for the ball. Who's going to sacrifice more in the circle and protect the net and play smart," said Sloboda. "It's always a blood bath against Calgary. Calgary and Alberta always play really well against each other."

The Pandas play a fairly structured game and stick to it, rather than adjusting to the other team's game plan. But Sloboda said the team needs to capitalize a bit more on opportunities to ensure scoring. The Pandas enter the opponent's circle about 25 times per half — it's just a matter of getting the ball in the net.

"I think we need to be better at capitalizing on our opportunities. These past two weekends we've shown that we can enter the other team's end and consistently be there. Now we just need to look at getting better outcomes.

"It's like shooting. If you consistently miss the net, then you're not going to score any goals. But if you keep putting it on the net, it will eventually come."

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THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



The High Cost of Student Debt

written by Mike Lakusiak — The Cord (Wilfrid Laurier University)

WATERLOO (CUP) — Anything written on financial planning and debt among university students is likely to be riddled with sound bites that seem to be common sense, as though students intelligent enough to enter a post-secondary institution should be able to budget and manage their money wisely and need only intermittent reminders.

As studies conducted by various prominent Canadian institutions point out, an assortment of factors conspire to complicate how students pay for their education and stay on track throughout their first four (or five, or six) years of university. And now, with the average debt accrued upon graduation rising to nearly \$20,000 among Canadian students, according to the latest figures by Statistics Canada, it is more important than ever for students to seriously examine their finances.

That's not to say that all students share a perspective on this — many are lucky enough to have had their parents save money for their education or help them along the way with some or all of the cost burden. In fact, a full 56 per cent of students in Canada polled by a BMO Financial Group survey this summer said they relied on parental contributions to largely fund their education. Regardless, awareness of the true financial toll of university education is lacking, according to some.

"Financial literacy is always a problem with first year students," said Sean Madden, the vice-president of university affairs for the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) and president of the Ontario Undergraduate Students' Association (OUSA).

Students progressing through their university careers need to maintain a level of awareness of all facets of their financial situation. Those responsible for funding their own education and unable to fall back on parental support face the most pressure.

"Students don't tend to have an idea of what they're facing," said Perry Quinton, vice president of marketing at Investor Education Fund. "Tuition is the tip of the iceberg; there are a lot of other costs involved."

On average, a year of undergraduate education in Ontario carries a \$6,500 price tag for tuition alone, according to a study by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA). According to Public Interest Alberta, the cost to Albertans is about equal when non-instructional fees are taken into account, at nearly \$818 for students each year.

Consider all the other costs students encounter, including rising ancillary fees, rent, food, phone and entertainment and it's not difficult to see how some manage to incur up to \$50,000 in debt of one kind or another over the course of a bachelor's degree if they are dependent entirely upon student loans. According to Desjardins Funds, the average cost of an education when living alone is \$11,923 if you're in Quebec, the province with the lowest average full-time undergraduate tuition fees.

Costs of education in Ontario have not risen proportionately with income levels, according to the same CCPA study. While from 1990 to 2011 the average after-tax income for middle-class families in Ontario has risen only 12.5 per cent to \$54,000, in the same time undergraduate tuition levels jumped from \$2,500 annually to \$6,500 — an increase of 260 per cent, numbers sustained throughout the country.

While in the past a student may have been able to feasibly pay for their education through a combination of reasonable parental contributions and savings or work, disproportionate cost increases make it more likely that students will struggle financially or accumulate greater debt. According to a Canadian Council on Learning study, one in four bachelor's graduates in Canada with large loans had a repayment rate at or above 15 per cent of their gross income — high above the 10-12 per cent margin they cited that causes hardship.

"There can be a big learning curve, even in the first few months of school, that can have a dramatic impact on finances for years to come."

Perry Quinton

VP Marketing, Investor Education Fund

For some, debt is unavoidable in light of the realities of paying for education. However, mitigating the amount of debt incurred and having plans to repay the accumulated total upon graduating are the two things students need to keep in mind.

Budgeting is key, according to Brian Smith, a finance professor in the School of Business and Economics at Wilfrid Laurier University.

"Obviously it's pretty common sense, but students need to budget ahead of time," he said. "They should also be aware of contingency planning, thinking a little bit about planning for additional spending."

The number of students who have actually sat down and budgeted out their semester or year, however, is questionable, especially when they seem assured of the reality of their financial situation. Only 20 per cent of students polled by RBC said that they plan and adhere to a monthly budget.

As students enter first year, with their bank accounts plump from summer savings or freshly acquired

student loans, it is all too easy to have an overly optimistic view of the situation.

"There can be a big learning curve, even in the first few months of school, that can have a dramatic impact on finances for years to come," Quinton said.

Many students seem to have come to terms with the realities of debt, as indicated by this year's RBC Student Spending and Savings Poll. A third of first year students that were approached said they expect to have significant debt when they graduate.

How readily those graduates will be able to recover from that debt is questionable in some cases, Smith explained.

"Sadly, students have to ... have a lifestyle that's consistent with the kind of income they can expect when they graduate." Asked if this wouldn't just be common sense among students, he replied, "If you have a strong sense of entitlement, you kind of throw common sense out the window."

Madden said the perception among students is often that they're more than likely to find a well-paying job upon graduation from certain programs, and therefore they worry less about the prospects of repaying loans.

"I think they did a survey of BBA students that said, 'we're willing to pay more because we're going to be making \$100k when we get out of here' — it's not necessarily the case, but a culture has grown around these programs."

If there's any lesson to be learned from this, it's that loan cheques should not be cashed lightly, especially if you have no plans for applying that degree to a real job after university.

"I remember what it's like — it's not hard to rack up a \$500 bar bill on a weekly basis," Quinton continued. "There are a lot of challenges when you're first getting into it."

A convenient option presented to students for such bar bills and less exciting things like haircuts are the credit cards that are thrown like candy at students in hopes that they'll keep the same cards in their wallet once they enter the working world.

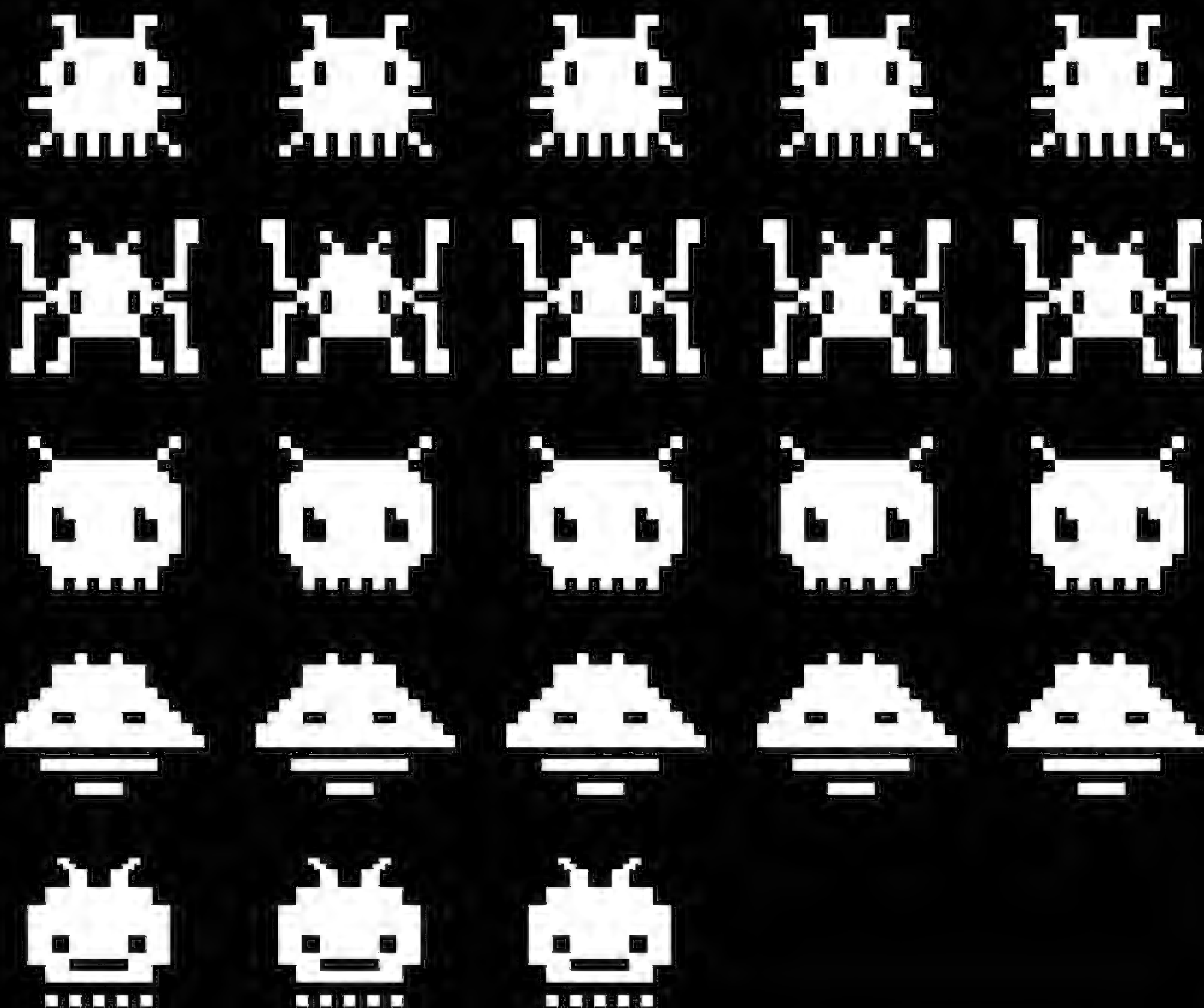
What students need to remember is that credit cards can be very unforgiving, if not used carefully.

Beyond budgeting, finding savings, generally being responsible with your money during university and not blindly relying on loans or other forms of debt by submitting to deal with the repercussions "one day," there's not a whole lot else students can do to prepare and cope with the costs of post-secondary education today.

Awareness is the one thing that Quinton said students need to have most, since being responsible for one's finances for the first time often lends itself more to blind ignorance than active planning.

"I think it's so important to get ahead of the game," he said. "I meet so many people that wish they knew then what they know now."

ORIENTATION 2011



EVERY SEPTEMBER, U OF A WELCOMES 6000 NEW STUDENTS TO CAMPUS!

This year on September 5th and 6th the Orientation staff and volunteers carried on this proud U of A tradition. Our mission is to facilitate a smooth transition onto campus because we believe that students need to come to campus prepared to take on their university career head on. We provided students with innovative presentations and unique opportunities to explore their new school.

This year our theme was Level Up! Like old school video games, you need to stay on your toes and arm yourself with the appropriate skills and resources if you intend to do well. At the same time, like old school video games, University is a lot of fun! The next chapter of your life is full of experiences that will enable you to make lifelong friendships and grow as a dynamic person ready to be a leader in the 21st century.



THANK YOU!

TO THE NEW STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED ORIENTATION 2011:

By beginning your university experience with Orientation 2011, you have given yourself a fantastic start to your new university career. We sincerely hope that our presentations succeed in helping you learn more about being successful at the University of Alberta, and made you feel more at ease in the campus community. But most importantly, we hope you had fun, and made a new group of friends with whom you can share your university experience. We wish you the best of luck for the coming year; once again, welcome to the University of Alberta!

TO THE ORIENTATION VOLUNTEERS:

Orientation would not exist without all of you amazing volunteers! Your passion and spirit is unmatched by any other group on campus, and we can never thank you enough for your hard work, but we will do our best!

TO THE TEAM FACILITATORS:

Each and every one of our amazing 40 Team Facilitators have faced early mornings, late nights, and busy weekends over the last 9 months to help the Centre for Student Development recruit, choose, and train all of our other volunteers. The enthusiasm, passion, and leadership that these 40 volunteers exhibit day after day with the program is inspiring, and we would like to thank them all a thousand times over! This family of volunteers dedicated time to planning social events for their volunteers, overseeing the creation and performance of the amazing Orientation Presentations, and ensuring that the behind the scenes workings of Orientation always ran smoothly. As a staff, we cherish every moment we have been able to work with these devoted volunteers, and we would like to thank you for realizing the vision of Orientation 2011.

TO THE PROGRAM ASSISTANTS:

Whatever was going on during Orientation 2011, you could always pick out a yellow-shirted volunteer working diligently across campus to help facilitate the inner workings of the program. These volunteers are the unbelievable OPAs! These compassionate volunteers ran the information tents, helped direct students to the conference sessions, distributed prizes, ran registration, took attendance in presentations, handed out ballots, set up the wonderful decorations, and problem solved to ensure Orientation 2011 went off without a hitch. We sincerely thank all of the OPAs for their amazing work and dedication, Orientation could simply not happen without you!

TO THE HIGH SCHOOL AND U OF A EXCLUSIVE ORIENTATION LEADERS:

Our passionate High School and U of A Exclusive Orientation Leaders make up the face of the program, and the face of this university community to new students, as they interact directly with the students throughout the two days of Orientation. Without each and every one of our Orientation Leaders, there would be no purpose to the Orientation program. This spirited group of volunteers brings their experience, knowledge and enthusiasm for the University of Alberta to Orientation to help ensure that our new students 'level up' at Orientation. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for creating such a warm welcome for all the new students at the U of A!

TO THE ORIENTATION PRESENTATION FACILITATORS:

Words cannot describe how grateful we are to this group of unbelievably creative and talented volunteers. We are immensely proud of what this group was able to accomplish in the last 4 months, and you all should be equally proud of the great work you did on the Orientation presentations. Despite room changes, technical difficulties, and a grueling performance schedule, you all shone in your delivery of these entertaining and informative presentations. Our new students expressed extreme satisfaction with the presentations, and that fact is entirely owed to the passion and enthusiasm with which the Presentation Facilitators delivered these presentations. So once again, thank you, your contributions to Orientation were absolutely invaluable!

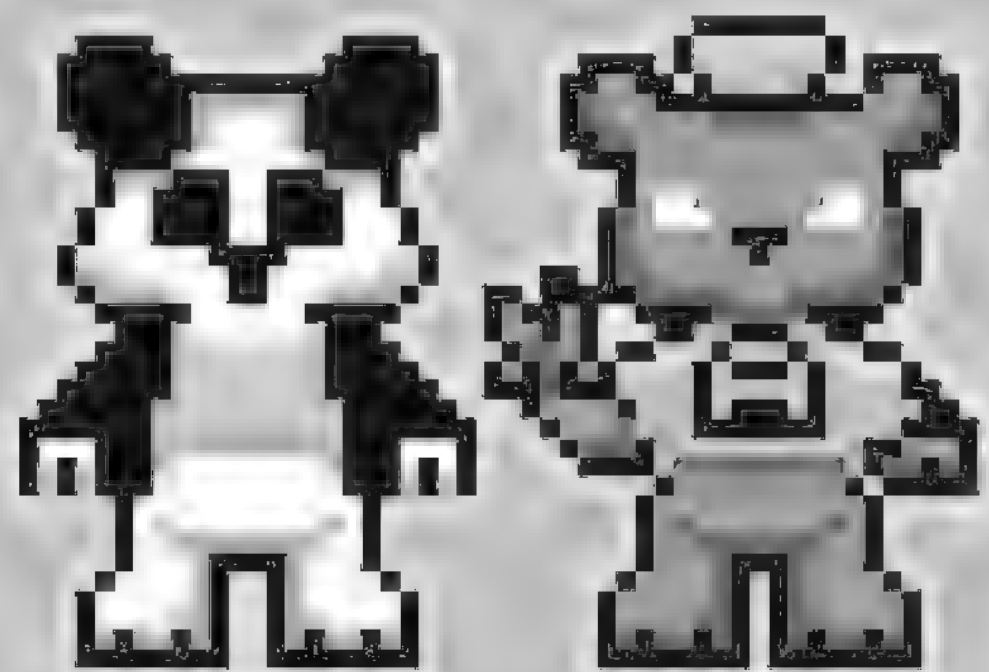
TO THE ORIENTATION PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNICIANS:

While we all enjoy Orientation, the amazing photos captured by the Orientation Photographers are what will allow us to relive the experience over and over again in the years to come. The photographers work ceaselessly for four days capturing the magic and memories of Orientation for the benefit of us all. Their talent and diligence ensures that we have thousands of photographs to help us recall the fun and excitement of Orientation 2011. We thank you all for your dedication to the Orientation program!

Have a wonderful year, and thank you all again times infinity!

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Emma Tunney
Joshua Ulliac
Jana Urvold
Daniel Veraart
Karine Vienneau
Robyn Villett
Juliana Virani
Jane Voloboeva
Raymond Wainman
Yuxing Wang
Rose Wang
Sunny Wang
Sheila Wang
Raibail Waseem
Ashley Watson
Virginia Weber
Ambereen Weerahandi
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Andy Williams
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Matthew Yaychuk
Jordan Yip
Beatrice Yip
Siaw En Yong
Jenny Yoon
Henry Yu
Bryan Yu
Dao Cun Zeng

 **95.11%**

of students say that they were happy to have attended Orientation 2011: Level Up!

 **94.34%**


of students say they feel more confident about going to the U of A after having attended Orientation.

 **94.67%**

of students say that the volunteers were knowledgeable and approachable.

 **97.31%**

of students feel that their Orientation 2011 experience rated from Average to Excellent


 **83.82%**

of students say that they feel connected to or included as part of the U of A community after having attended Orientation 2011: Level Up!



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Diversions

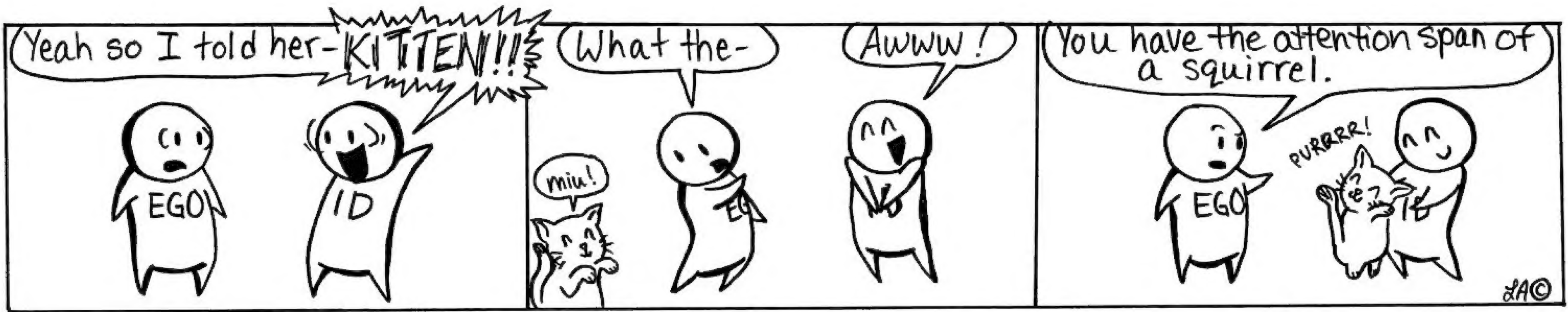
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COMICS

POP & ICE CREAM by Lance and Evan Mudryk



ID & EGO by Lauren Alston



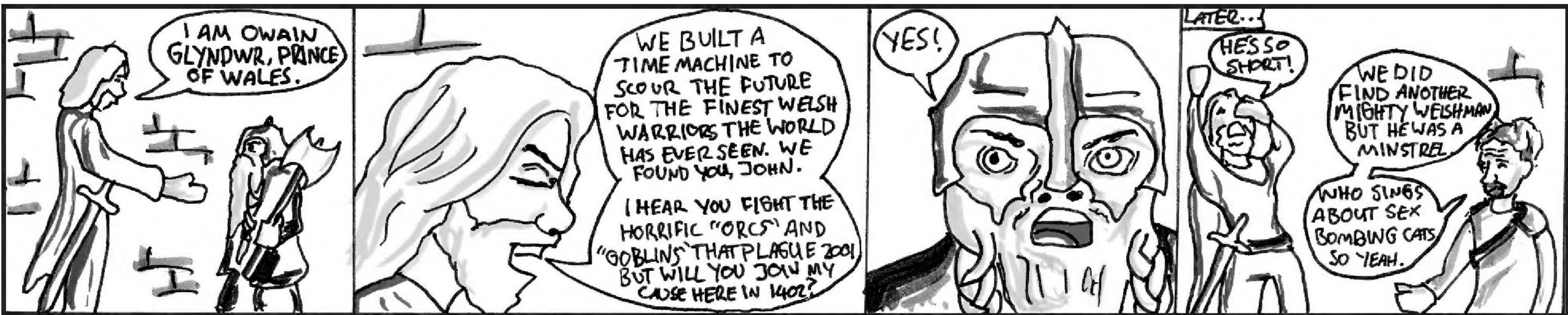
METALEETO by Ross Vincent



CHEAP CYNICISM by Jesse Cunningham



TALES FROM WALES by Ryan Bromsgrove



crossword

Puzzle provided by BestCrosswords.com
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Across

- 1. Pile
- 5. Copycat
- 9. Wreath of flowers
- 12. Car bar
- 13. Roofing items
- 15. Mouth bones
- 16. Milk source
- 17. Shout of exultation
- 18. Airline since 1948
- 19. Writer
- 21. Headset
- 23. Apply powder to oneself
- 25. Combining form meaning “dry”
- 26. Convened
- 29. Enclose
- 31. Gambling state
- 35. Israeli submachine gun
- 36. Muzzle
- 38. Mum’s mate
- 39. Feminist Lucretia
- 41. Chairman’s hammer
- 43. Suspend
- 44. A Musketeer
- 46. Nairobi’s nation
- 48. Baton Rouge sch.
- 49. Winged child
- 51. Singer Amos
- 52. Bruce was a famous kung-fu movie star
- 53. Little Tenderness
- 55. Frees (of)

- 57. In fact
- 61. It spreads aromatic smoke
- 65. Fleshy fruit
- 66. Garlic sauce
- 68. In a bad way
- 69. Actress McClurg
- 70. Merchandise
- 71. Physical suffering
- 72. Part of RSVP
- 73. Chair
- 74. Blunted blade

Down

- 1. Panama and bowler
- 2. Corp. VIP, briefly
- 3. Banned apple spray
- 4. Minor, in law
- 5. Man of royal blood
- 6. Actress Zadora
- 7. Fashion mag
- 8. Make less tense
- 9. Composer Schifrin
- 10. Actor McGregor
- 11. Archipelago part
- 14. Philosopher Kierkegaard
- 15. God
- 20. Sacks
- 22. Get ready
- 24. Frog sound
- 26. Shrub of the cashew family
- 27. Alchemist’s mercury
- 28. One tenth, usually
- 30. Down-filled quilt
- 32. In the least

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8				9	10	11
12						13				14			15		
16						17							18		
19					20			21			22				
				23			24		25						
26	27	28		29			30		31				32	33	34
35					36				37		38				
39				40		41				42		43			
44					45		46				47		48		
49						50		51					52		
				53			54		55			56			
57	58	59						60		61			62	63	64
65						66			67			68			
69						70						71			
72							73					74			

- 33. Compact
- 34. Dispute
- 37. Domingo, for one
- 40. Agonize
- 42. Lyric poet
- 45. Chapter of the Koran

- 47. Adjutant
- 50. Clause
- 54. AKA
- 56. Long-billed sandpiper
- 57. Gorillas, chimpanzees and orangutans
- 58. Basic monetary unit of Ghana

- 59. Follow
- 60. Long ago
- 62. Hit with an open hand
- 63. “Night” author Wiesel
- 64. Baseball’s Sandberg
- 67. Meadow

sudoku

				3		4	1	8
	7		6	4				2
4		2			8		9	
	6		4			1		
	4	9	5		2	7	3	
		5			6		2	
	8		3			5		9
7				6	5		4	
9	5	1		7				

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